

Bahrain extradites KAL suspect

BAHRAIN (AP) — A Korean Airlines (KAL) jet took off Monday for Seoul carrying the mysterious Asian woman linked to the disappearance of a Korean airliner with 115 people aboard, witnesses reported. The DC-10 jet, a cargo plane with very few windows, took off at 9:40 p.m. (1840 GMT) and was due to arrive in the South Korean capital early Tuesday afternoon. The cargo jet had been under strict guard over the previous 24 hours in a corner of Bahrain's international airport. The witnesses, who saw the takeoff from a distance, said there were about 20 vehicles around the plane just before departure. Knowledgeable witnesses said they believed the body of a man who committed suicide in Bahrain on Dec. 1 by swallowing poison has also brought aboard the plane. They also said they believed that Seoul's special envoy, Park Goo-Sil, and a team of Korean interrogators who had been in Bahrain for investigations, were aboard the plane. Bahraini officials said they would issue statements only after the woman's extradition had taken place.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز بؤسمة سياسية تصدر بالإنجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية، البراي

Iranian minister denies Khomeini ill

VIENNA (R) — Iranian Deputy Oil Minister Hossein Kazempour Ardebili denied press reports and rumours circulating in OPEC that Iranian leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini was seriously ill. "He's well and very healthy," Ardebili told reporters. Asked about reports that the Iranian leader had been replaced by a caretaker, Ardebili said: "No, nothing like that." Reports have been circulating that Khomeini was ill over the past two days. It was the first time an Iranian official in Vienna had made any comment. In recent years, reports that the 85-year-old leader was ill have been given wide circulation in the West. But Khomeini has repeatedly confounded those who believed his apparent frailty would force him to abandon power. He moved to Tehran from Qom in 1980 because of a heart complaint and has often cancelled his engagements for perhaps two weeks at a time to rest. Since then, there have been no reports of Khomeini leaving the north Tehran house where he lives surrounded by aides, fiercely loyal Revolutionary Guards, fortifications and anti-aircraft guns. The Times of London said on Monday he had regularly been on a kidney dialysis machine for the past year.

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Christian leader sends cable of appreciation to Crown Prince

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan has received a message from Greek Orthodox Patriarch of Jerusalem Demetrios I voicing appreciation for his patronage of the Islamic-Christian meeting held in Amman. In his message, the patriarch said that Prince Hassan's keenness on promoting and advancing relations between Christians and Muslims represents the noblest feelings and effect his national and humanitarian aspirations and objectives.

Iaj Hassan returns

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Labour and Social Development Haid Al Haj Hassan returned home on Monday after attending meetings of the Arab Social Ministers Council in Tunis.

Jordan to get \$40m World Bank loan

WASHINGTON (R) — The World Bank said it would lend Jordan \$40 million to improve the country's educational system. The money will be used to build 3 compulsory-level schools and finance a pilot vocational programme for girls in areas where demand for skilled workers has been growing.

Kuwait urges Aden to scrap sentences

KUWAIT (R) — The emir of Kuwait urged South Yemen's government on Monday not to execute 35 political opponents sentenced to death after a year-long trial. Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, South Yemen's President, said he was asking him to rescind the death sentences and "duce jail terms on others," the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) said.

EC gives \$2.5m aid to Lebanon

RUSSELS (AP) — The European Economic Community (EEC) Monday approved an emergency aid package of two billion European currency units (2.5 million) for Lebanon.

U.S., Israel sign military accord

WASHINGTON (R) — Israel and the United States signed an agreement on Monday to cooperate more closely on arms research and development, raising Israel's same military partnership with the U.S. as NATO allies. The memorandum of understanding was signed at the Pentagon by U.S. Secretary of Defense Frank Carlucci.

Philippines continues search for plane

MANILA (R) — Philippine officials switched their search for a missing passenger aircraft to the sea after rescue workers failed on Monday to find wreckage earlier reported on a jungle-clad hilltop. A naval frigate set out to search waters off the southern and of Mindanao after villagers on the coast said they heard an explosion on Sunday.

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Two more Arabs fall martyr to Israeli bullets in occupied lands

Violent protests continue in W. Bank and Gaza • Arab League pays tribute to the rare courage of children

GAZA CITY (Agencies) — Israeli troops shot dead a Palestinian demonstrator on Monday and a second protester died of his wounds on the sixth consecutive day of anti-Israeli violence in the occupied Gaza Strip, the Israeli army and Arab sources said.

Doctors at Nasser hospital in Khan Yunis, near Gaza City, told Reuters photographer Jim Hollander another demonstrator was also shot dead. Neither the army nor international relief agency sources could confirm this. Palestinians in Gaza and the

occupied West Bank have said at least eight demonstrators have died and scores have been wounded in anti-occupation protests since Wednesday.

The Gaza Strip protests, in which at least 16 demonstrators suffered gunshot wounds, was described by United Nations officials as among the worst since Israel occupied the area in June 1967.

In Tunis, the head of the Arab League on Monday praised the rare courage shown by schoolchildren in violent protests in the Israeli-occupied territories.

Secretary General Chadli Klibi also called on the U.N. Security Council to intervene to stop the "barbarous" Israeli action in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"The Arab League... reaffirms the total support of the entire Arab Nation for the heroic struggle of the Palestinian people..." (Continued on page 5)

Soviet envoy begins visit to Iraq

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — A special Soviet envoy has arrived in Baghdad to brief Iraqi leaders on the outcome of U.S.-Soviet summit talks on the Iran-Iraq war.

A Soviet embassy spokesman said on Monday that Mikhail Sytenko, an ambassador for special assignments who flew in on Sunday night, would also review Soviet-Iraqi relations in his talks later on Monday.

U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy said on Friday the summit between President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev had been "inconclusive" on the seven-year-old war, with the Soviets sticking to known positions.

Baghdad in the past has criticised Moscow, its main arms supplier, over its call to give Tehran more time to accept the U.N. Security Council demand for a ceasefire.

Gorbachev: U.S.-Soviet ties improved but it is too early for basic changes

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev said Monday that U.S.-Soviet relations have improved, but it was still too early to talk about a fundamental change.

Mr. Gorbachev told Soviet Television viewers that differences over the American strategic defence initiative (SDI), or "Star Wars" programme, remained one of the issues that could halt further improvements in the super-power relationship.

The Soviet Communist Party chief addressed Soviet citizens on the results of his trip last week to Washington, where he and U.S. President Ronald Reagan signed an agreement eliminating the superpowers' medium-range nuclear weapons.

Mr. Gorbachev, dressed in a

gray suit and red striped tie, spoke for 20 minutes, a relatively brief period, at the beginning of the nightly news programme Vremya.

"If one is firmly based on the facts and is not given to exaggeration, it is yet early to speak about a fundamental improvement of Soviet-American relations," Mr. Gorbachev said.

But he added that in Washington his talks with Mr. Reagan and other American political leaders were "different, more constructive than before."

Mr. Gorbachev said that differences over Mr. Reagan's "Star Wars" programme for a space-based missile defence system still could halt progress in U.S.-Soviet relations.

During the Washington summit and the period leading up to it, the Soviets toned down their sharp criticism of the "Star Wars" programme, indicating a possible change in the Soviet position.

Mr. Gorbachev and Mr. Reagan have pledged themselves to work for a 50 per cent cut in their long-range nuclear arsenals, but the Soviets have made that agreement contingent on limits on the "Star Wars" programme.

Mr. Reagan said Friday that the issue would not stand in the way of agreement to cut strategic arsenals.

The Soviet leader said unspecified circles in the United States and Western Europe were trying to spoil the chance to improve relations.

Research finds most of Jordan's unemployed among well-educated, young, poor and females

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A research on unemployment in Jordan has found that most of the unemployed were among the well-educated, the young, the poor and female citizens. The unemployment rate was estimated to increase from 6.9 per cent in 1986 to 10 per cent in 1990, according to the results of the research released on Monday, but officials and observers said many loopholes in the research resulted in incorrect unemployment figures and an underestimation of the magnitude of the problem.

The research, a summary of which was read out by Dr. Mohammad Shabateet of the Royal Scientific Society's (RSS) Economics Research Department at a seminar at the RSS, said that the unemployment problem "has become one of the main problems facing Jordan" and that the governorate of Zarqa suffered the

highest unemployment level, followed by the Amman area.

The findings were based on a sample survey of 2,064 unemployed Jordanians who registered at the Civil Service Commission and Ministry of Labour employment offices in the Kingdom. The 2,064 constituted 30 per cent of applicants during July and August 1986, the period during which the survey was conducted.

The sex ratio of the unemployed was nearly 2:3 which meant that for every 100 unemployed females, there are 230 unemployed males. It was also observed that the percentage of unemployed males was well above average in Maan and Mafraq governorates, about 99 per cent and 76 per cent respectively. The study cited "social elements such as the negative attitude towards female employment" to be responsible for the imbalance.

The research, partly financed by the West German Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES), said more

than two-thirds of the unemployed were below the age of 30 and that the burden of this problem was "greater on females." It said that 93 per cent of unemployed females were under the age of 30 while this ratio did not exceed 68 per cent for males.

Dr. Matthes Buhbe, the FES representative in Jordan, said the real unemployment rate in Jordan was probably higher than the official figure of seven to eight per cent and that predictions for 1990 were based on certain considerations and elements that may not materialise as projected.

Dr. Buhbe, who also contributed to the research project, told the Jordan Times that the total unemployment figures were offered by the Ministry of Labour and included only those who registered themselves at the Civil Service Commission and Labour Ministry employment offices. The employment rate of seven to eight per cent did not cover those who had not registered. Officials

League meets today in Tunis

TUNIS (R) — The Arab League will hold an urgent meeting in Tunis on Tuesday to discuss violent protests in Israeli-occupied territories. The meeting of permanent representatives at the Arab League's headquarters was called at the request of the PLO, a league spokesman said on Monday. The session is to discuss the dangerous situation in the West Bank and Gaza, the spokesman said.

Ramadan arrives heading team to joint panel meetings

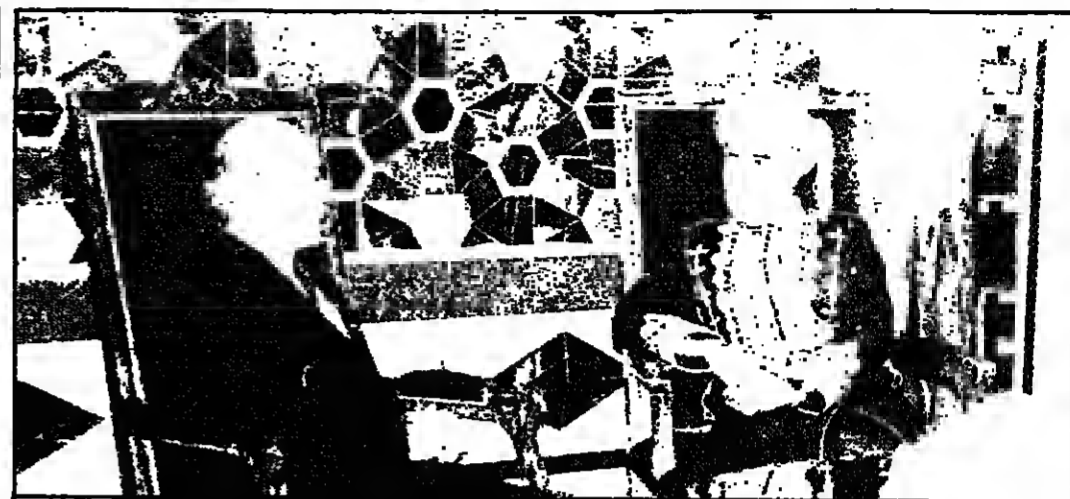
AMMAN (J.T.) — The Iraqi side to the Joint Jordanian-Iraqi Higher Committee led by Iraq's Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan arrived in Amman on Monday to take part in the talks with the Jordanian side opening Tuesday.

Mr. Ramadan, in a statement upon arrival, voiced deep satisfaction with the work of joint committees between Iraq and Jordan, and said that they were helping the two countries to march ahead towards more progress.

Jordanian-Iraqi relations are exemplary and are being strengthened all the time," Mr. Ramadan said in the statement, carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

On the situation along the Iran-Iraq war front, Mr. Ramadan said the time element was on the side of Iraq and the situation was reassuring.

The Joint Jordanian-Iraqi Higher Committee meetings were preceded by lower-level discussions on Monday co-chaired by the under secretaries of the ministries of industry and trade in Jordan and Iraq.



His Majesty King Hussein confers with Sultan Qaboos Ibn Sa'id of Oman during his visit to the Sultanate on Sunday and Monday (Petra photo)

King returns after Gulf visit

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein returned home Monday evening after a five-country Arab Gulf tour during which he held talks with their leaders on the Gulf war and other issues of interest to the Arab Nation.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said that the King's discussions were a follow-up effort on last month's Amman summit meeting and dwelt on important issues of destiny in the Arab region and Jordan's relations with Gulf states.

The King visited Kuwait,

Qatar, Oman, the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain during his three-day tour. He was accompanied by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'ed Ibn Zaid and Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker. Mr. Rifai flew home from the UAE on Sunday.

On the final day of his stay in Muscat, the last stop in his tour, King Hussein met with Sultan Qaboos Ibn Sa'id of Oman and reviewed the general conditions in the Arab region in the light of

recent developments on the regional and international levels, and the Amman summit meeting as well as Omani-Jordanian relations.

Upon his return to Amman with the delegation, the King was met by His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and members of the Royal Family.

Also at hand to welcome the King back were Mr. Rifai, the speaker of the Upper House of Parliament, the deputy speaker of the Lower House and other officials.

RJ expects JD 1.7m in operating profits for first time in 4 years

Ghandour announces agreement with banks over long-term loans as first step towards privatisation

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Royal Jordanian (RJ), Jordan's national carrier, said Monday it expects a JD 1.7 million in operating profit for 1987 and announced a "full payout lease" agreement with a consortium of Arab and foreign banks to rid the organisation from long-term loans as a first step towards privatisation.

Ali Ghandour, chairman of the RJ board and chief executive officer, did not disclose any forecasts for RJ's net profits this year. However, expected operating profit follows three years of consecutive losses for the airline. RJ made a net loss of JD 1.78 million in 1986, company figures show.

Speaking at a press conference held on the occasion of the air-



Ali Ghandour, chairman of the Royal Jordanian board of directors, holds a press conference on Monday (photo by Youssef Al-Ahlan)

line's 24th anniversary, Mr. Ghandour based the projected operating profit on an expected gross income of JD 122.345 million and tentative expenditures of

JD 120.643 million for 1987.

The RJ chairman praised the wave of deregulation in air fares

(Continued on page 5)

OPEC awaits Iranian decision on 1988 oil price and production pact

VIENNA (Agencies) — Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) ministers, poised to sign a 1988 oil price and production pact, were waiting only for approval from Iran, whose oil minister flew home on Monday to consult his government.

Oil Minister Gholamreza Aqazadeh told reporters before leaving for Tehran that a compromise reached after five days of hard bargaining was to extend the group's current output ceiling for six months at the prevailing \$18 price.

Dr. Buhbe said that projections of unemployment figures for 1990 were based on the incorrect assumption that the present rate was seven to eight per cent and assuming economic activities within the five-year 1986-1990 national development plan which is expected to create new jobs.

"These projections (10 per cent unemployment in 1990) are based on the assumption that the (present) rate of seven to eight per cent is true," Dr. Buhbe said. "This may be wrong."

World Bank figures for 1986 said that if the present economic trends in the Kingdom continued, unemployment was expected to reach 30 per cent by 1990. The World Bank based its estimates on the growing unemployment

ready to sign the agreement, I left the session," he said in a dispatch monitored in Cyprus.

Despite the IRNA report, conference sources told AP in Vienna that Mr. Aqazadeh was in favour of the proposed deal and would seek to persuade Iranian leaders.

The proposed pact by the oil group calls for retaining the average oil price at \$18 a barrel and maintaining the same level of oil production at 15.06 million barrels a day.

Iraq planned to opt out of the deal because its demand for a quota equal to Iran's was not met.

Iraq has a quota of 1.54 million barrels a day, but has been pumping at least 2.7 million barrels a day recently. Iran, with a quota of 2.37 million barrels a day, produces about 2.4 million.

The year-old \$18 a barrel reference price would be reviewed at the next scheduled OPEC conference in June. Mr. Aqazadeh said in Vienna, although an emergency meeting could be convened if OPEC market watchdogs decided overproduction was destabilising prices.

Iran still wants a rise of at least \$2 but has temporarily backed down in the face of opposition led by Saudi Arabia, the highest OPEC producer, given an over-

supplied and fragile market, delegates said.

Quota violations and price-cutting have loosened OPEC's year-long grip on "spot" or free market prices, they said, and the expected compromise is widely seen by delegates and oil traders and analysts as a face- and market-saving measure.

Brent crude oil from the North Sea for February delivery fell 90 cents a barrel to \$16.75 in Europe. But in Tokyo, the first market to open after the weekend, traders held back, unwilling to speculate on the outcome of the talks.

Prices fell to eight-month lows worldwide last week and seemed set to fall further before any correction, traders said.

Iran says the \$18 barrel of oil now buys goods worth only \$15.70 when the reference price was set, because of the currency's slide since then. The dollar slipped to record lows on Monday and the price of gold, a haven in times of economic uncertainty, rose above \$500 an ounce.

According to the Iranian minister, overall production for the first half of 1988 would be limited to 15.06 million barrels per day (bpd) — the old ceiling minus Iraq's 1,540,000 bpd quota which traders said it has exceeded by up to 100 per cent.

21 killed in worst raid on Iranian shipping in Gulf

OSLO (R) — Twenty-one crewmen from a Norwegian-run tanker set ablaze by Iraqi jets were killed in the worst single attack on merchant shipping of the Gulf war, shipping officials said on Monday.

The jets pumped Exocet missiles into the 218,467-tonne tanker *Susangir*, owned by the National Iranian Tanker Company and managed by Norway's Reksten Management, as it sailed fully-loaded from Iran's northern Kharg Island terminal.

Jan Evjenth, a spokesman for Reksten, said five other seamen survived the attack and that Iran had abandoned an air and sea search for the remaining crew, including the ship's Norwegian captain.

"We had a telephone call from Tehran to say that they've called off the search," said Evjenth. "Four Philippine and one Polish crewman survived and are being treated in hospital. We've been told the others are dead."

"They said they found only two bodies, charred beyond recognition," he said.

Evjenth had no information on the fate of representatives from the National Iranian Tanker Company who were reported to have been on board when the ship was attacked last Wednesday and Thursday.

The known survivors were the Polish chief engineer and the ship's radio officer, second mate, third engineer and canteen boy.

Shipping sources have been unable to obtain clear information about the attack. Earlier reports said 26 people died.

Since the Gulf tanker war began in earnest in 1984, only last May's attack on the U.S. navy frigate *Stark* has killed more people.

Thirty-seven people died when an Iraqi missile accidentally hit the vessel.

Shipping sources had been unable to obtain clear details of what happened last week, because the attack took place close to Iran's coast. Lloyd's shipping intelligence reported the attack on Friday, but said only that some crew were missing or wounded.

Reksten manages four ships currently operating in the Gulf, where Norwegian shippers have a stake in one in five vessels sailing within Strait of Hormuz at any given time.

The captain of the *Susangir* is Olaf Leroy, 58, from Bergen. His death, if confirmed, would be the first Norwegian fatality in the Gulf.

Last Thursday, the Singapore-flagged but Norwegian-managed *Norman Atlantic* sank in flames.

Cairo takes action against school after 64 students killed in accident

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian officials on Monday suspended the headmaster and temporarily shut the school from which 64 children were killed in Egypt's worst road accident in years.

Education Minister Fathi Sorour ordered the children's school closed for a week, suspended the headmaster and transferred teachers to other schools as the government was criticised over the accident in which more than 70 children also were injured.

The 42-capacity bus, carrying 130 children aged six to 12, and six teachers, was crushed by a train on a makeshift railway crossing near Cairo.

Members of parliament, who discussed the tragedy on Sunday night, blamed the Ministry of Communications for not cracking down on unofficial pedestrian crossings over railway lines.

The school bus was hit when the driver took a short cut over one of these unguarded dirt tracks across the railway rather than use a level-crossing on the main road less than one kilometre away.

But minister Soliman Metwally said more level crossings would slow trains down "and turn them into jams."

Leading newspaper columnist Galal Hamamsi blamed the government for doing nothing about what he called Egyptians' anarchic attitude to life and rules.

Sytenko in Baghdad

(Continued from page 1)

identified the vessels as the 48,671-ton *Filikos* and the 51,372-ton *Tharaleos* and said they were attacked within 16 minutes of each other, Friday night.

Both vessels sustained minor damage and no casualties were reported, Lloyd's said in the first report of the attacks.

The two tankers reported attacked by the Iranian frigate were in roughly the same area where a 232,164-ton Cypriot tanker, the *Pivot*, was hit by a warship Saturday, maritime salvage experts said.

Lloyd's said the *Filikos* was attacked at 9:10 p.m. Friday (1710 GMT) after being challenged by the frigate. The vessel's hull was holed, but it sailed on to the Saudi port of Ras Tanura where it loaded and left Monday.

The *Tharaleos* was attacked at 9:26 p.m. Friday (1726 GMT) en route to Kuwait.

Egyptian defence minister begins visit to Kuwait

KUWAIT (R) — Egypt's defence minister arrived in Kuwait on Monday heading a military mission to explore how Egypt can help Kuwait, on the edge of the Iran-Iraq war, defend itself.

Field Marshal Abdul Halim Abu Ghazala told reporters at the airport he would discuss Kuwait's security with officials during his four-day visit, the first by a top Egyptian official since the two countries resumed diplomatic ties last month.

His visit followed a vow by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak two months ago that Cairo would help Kuwait with its defence.

Field Marshal Abu Ghazala said: "Day by day we stand behind Kuwait and we believe that Kuwait and Egypt's security is integral."

"Egypt is ready to defend the Arab Nation and to help Kuwait against any foreign aggression," Kuwait, located in the north of

the waterway only kilometres from the Gulf war front, is particularly vulnerable to any military escalation in the Iran-Iraq conflict.

Kuwait supports Iraq against Iran and has been the target of at least seven Silkworm missile attacks this year. Kuwait has blamed Iran for the attacks.

Field Marshal Abu Ghazala is expected to meet the Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, on Tuesday after seeing Kuwaiti Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah on Monday.

Egypt's potential role as a powerful Arab buffer against Iran was largely responsible for a decision last month by Kuwait and other Arab Gulf states to restore diplomatic ties.

Mr. Mubarak met Field Marshal Abu Ghazala on Sunday to discuss plans for his mission to Kuwait.

The semi-official newspaper Al

Ahram said Field Marshal Abu Ghazala's delegation included representatives of all the main branches of Egypt's 445,000-strong armed forces and a senior cabinet minister, Atef Obeid, in charge of cabinet affairs.

In Sharjah, the United Arab Emirates, the Al Khaleej newspaper said Field Marshal Abu Ghazala was expected to sign an agreement to sell Kuwait Egyptian-built ground-to-air Al Ain Al Saqr (falcon's eye) missiles.

It gave no source for its dispatch from Cairo which also said the minister would sign a protocol for training more Kuwaiti air force officers in Egypt.

The Egyptian newspaper Al Ahram said Field Marshal Abu Ghazala would discuss "military, defence and security cooperation between the two countries in the light of Egypt's commitment that it stands against aggressions and threats directed against any Arab country in the Gulf."

Any threat to Gulf security was a threat to Egyptian national security, the newspaper said. Mr. Mubarak pledged in October that Egypt would help Kuwait "with all its potentials." Officials have indicated that Cairo envisages aiding the Kuwaitis — if asked — with arms, training and logistical support rather than by sending troops.

Egyptian officials have also indicated that Cairo preferred to act together in a joint force with other Arab states.

Al Ahram said a military team visited Kuwait recently to survey Kuwait's defence and security situation and had reported to Field Marshal Abu Ghazala and the Emir of Kuwait.

Field Marshal Abu Ghazala told a parliamentary committee last month that a united Arab stand backed by military strength could force Iran to negotiate an end to the Gulf war.

UNIFIL says it has no indication of reported Israeli military build-up

BEIRUT (AP) — A United Nations spokesman said Monday the international peacekeepers have monitored nothing to indicate Israel was preparing for a thrust into South Lebanon, despite persistent reports of a military build-up along the border.

"There is nothing unusual in our areas," said Timur Goksel, spokesman for the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), which polices southern territory on Israel's northern flank.

"There are no unusual movements in UNIFIL areas, physically speaking," Goksel said in a telephone interview from UNI-

FIL headquarters in the border town of Naqura.

But he noted that there were areas in the south beyond the control of the 5,800-strong U.N. contingent, which deployed after Israel's first incursion in 1978.

Israel withdrew the bulk of its forces from Lebanon in 1985, three years after it invaded the country. But it has since carved out a self-designated "security zone," about 10 to 16 kilometres deep, along the border.

The strip, 80 kilometres long, stretches from the Mediterranean coast to the foothills of Mount

Hermon, overlapping with UNIFIL-policed areas.

State and privately owned Beirut radio stations have reported that Israel has been massing troops along the border and apparently preparing to retaliate for a Nov. 26 attack on an army base in northern Israel on Nov. 26.

Six Israeli troops were killed and eight wounded in the attack by a guerrilla flying a motorised hang glider. The Syrian-backed Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC) claimed responsibility.

Various guerrilla factions have been on alert in south, north and east Lebanon in anticipation of Israeli reprisals.

Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasser Arafat was quoted Monday as saying Israel has massed 40,000-60,000 troops in preparation for a full-scale invasion.

His remarks were published by the daily newspaper Al Anwar. Asked about Mr. Arafat's remarks, Goksel said: "I cannot confirm anything."

Other Beirut newspapers, the Al Nahar and Al Safir, have reported that General Antoine Lahd, commander of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army militia, visited east Beirut last week. They linked the visit to what they described as Israel's expected retaliation for the hang-glider attack.

The 2,000-strong predominantly SLA patrols the South Lebanon "security zone" along with Israeli troops.

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<div><div>JORDAN TELEVISION</div><div>Tel: 773111-19</div><div>PROGRAMME ONE</div><div>15:30 Koran</div><div>15:30 Programme review</div><div>16:00 Children's programmes</div><div>16:50 Scientific programme for children</div><div>17:15 ALF</div><div>17:45 Contemporary Issues (Arabic)</div><div>18:10 Local series</div><div>19:00 Message from Oman</div><div>19:15 Local programme on education</div><div>19:50 Programme review and varieties</div><div>20:00 News in Arabic</div><div>20:35 Arabic Series</div><div>21:30 Local Legal Panel</div><div>22:15 Varieties programme</div><div>23:00 News summary in Arabic</div><div>23:10 Close down</div><div>PROGRAMME TWO</div><div>16:30 Basketball</div><div>18:00 Hotel de police</div><div>19:00 News in French</div><div>19:15 Un De plus (music)</div><div>19:30 News in Hebrew</div><div>19:45 Varieties</div><div>20:00 News in Arabic</div><div>20:30 Farrington of the F.C. (comedy)</div><div>21:00 Master Work</div><div>21:10 Remington Steele</div><div>22:00 News in English</div><div>22:30 Beggarman Thiel</div><div>RADIO JORDAN</div><div>855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM</div><div>& partly on 95.0 KHz. SW</div><div>Tel: 774111-19</div><div>07:00 Light Music</div><div>07:30 Newsdesk</div><div>08:00 Morning Show</div><div>08:10 News Summary</div><div>08:30 Just a Minute</div><div>09:00 Follow the Wind</div><div>09:10 News Summary</div><div>09:20 54 Minute Theatre</div><div>09:30 News Summary</div><div>09:40 Pop Session Cont'd.</div><div>10:00 News Bulletin</div><div>10:15 Instrumentals</div><div>10:30 Easy Listening</div><div>10:40 Concert Hour</div><div>10:50 News Summary</div><div>11:00 News Summary</div><div>11:30 Old Favorites</div><div>11:40 Pop Talk</div><div>12:00 Pop Session</div><div>12:30 News Summary</div><div>12:40 Top Twenty</div><div>13:00 Music</div><div>13:05 News Desk</div><div>13:10 Date with a Star</div></div>	<div><div>TODAY'S EVENTS</div><div>20:30 Evening Show</div><div>21:00 Evening Show Continued</div><div>22:30 News Summary</div><div>23:05 Evening Show Continued</div><div>24:00 Close Down</div><div>BBC WORLD SERVICE</div><div>639, 720, 1723 KHz</div><div>06:00 Newsdesk</div><div>06:30 Organists of Paris</div><div>06:45 Reflections</div><div>06:50 Financial News</div><div>07:00 World News</div><div>07:09 24 Hours: News Summary</div><div>07:30 Nature Watch</div><div>07:45 Recording of the Week</div><div>08:00 Newsdesk</div><div>08:30 A Future for the Past</div><div>09:00 World News</div><div>09:09 24 Hours: News Summary</div><div>09:30 The Cow and the Tornado</div><div>09:45 Network U.K.</div><div>10:00 World News</div><div>10:09 Reflections</div><div>10:15 Tech Talk</div><div>10:30 From the Proms</div><div>11:00 World News</div><div>11:09 British Press Review</div><div>11:15 Good Books</div><div>11:30 Financial News</div><div>11:45 Roundup</div><div>11:54 Music for a While</div><div>12:00 News Summary</div><div>12:09 Discovery</div><div>12:25 A Letter from Scotland</div><div>12:30 Citizens</div><div>13:00 World News</div><div>13:09 News About Britain</div><div>13:15 Waveguide</div><div>13:25 Book Choice</div><div>13:30 Drama</div><div>13:45 Musical World</div><div>14:15 Hoax</div><div>14:45 Sports Roundup</div><div>15:00 World News</div><div>15:09 24 Hours: News Summary</div><div>15:30 Network U.K.</div><div>15:45 Recording of the Week</div><div>16:00 News Summary</div><div>16:05 Look Back</div><div>16:15 Organists of Paris</div><div>17:00 Radio Newsworld</div><div>17:09 Commentary</div><div>17:15 Questions of Faith</div><div>17:45 Kings of Swing</div><div>18:00 World News</div><div>18:09 A Letter from Scotland</div><div>18:15 Citizens</div><div>18:30 Performance</div><div>18:45 Early Music</div><div>19:09 Commentary</div><div>19:15 Drama Serial</div><div>19:30 Open Door</div><div>19:45 Policies</div><div>19:15 The History of Radio Comedy</div><div>19:40 Book Choice</div><div>19:50 Sports Round-up</div><div>20:00 Newsdesk</div><div>20:30 Development</div><div>20:37 21:00 News Summary: Outlook</div><div>VOICE OF AMERICA</div><div>MW 1280 & SW 2340, 965, 11740, 11925 and 15210 KHz</div><div>06:00 News</div><div>06:10 Newsline</div><div>06:30 VOA Morning</div><div>07:00 News</div><div>07:10 Newsline</div><div>07:30 VOA Morning</div><div>08:00 News</div><div>08:10 Newsline</div><div>08:30 VOA Morning</div><div>09:00 News</div><div>09:10 Newsline</div><div>09:30 Music</div><div>09:40 News Summary</div><div>10:00 News</div><div>10:10 Newsline</div><div>10:30 Magazine</div><div>10:40 News</div><div>10:50 Newsline</div><div>11:00 News</div><div>11:10 Newsline</div><div>11:30 Magazine</div><div>11:40 News</div><div>11:50 Newsline</div><div>12:00 News</div><div>12:10 Newsline</div><div>12:30 Music</div><div>12:40 News</div><div>12:50 Newsline</div><div>13:00 News</div><div>13:10 Newsline</div><div>13:30 Music</div><div>13:40 News</div><div>13:50 Newsline</div><div>14:00 News</div><div>14:10 Newsline</div><div>14:30 Music</div><div>14:40 News</div><div>14:50 Newsline</div><div>15:00 News</div><div>15:10 Newsline</div><div>15:30 Music</div><div>15:40 News</div><div>15:50 Newsline</div><div>16:00 News</div><div>16:10 Newsline</div><div>16:30 Music</div><div>16:40 News</div><div>16:50 Newsline</div><div>17:00 News</div><div>17:10 Newsline</div><div>17:30 Music</div><div>17:40 News</div><div>17:50 Newsline</div><div>18:00 News</div><div>18:10 Newsline</div><div>18:30 Music</div><div>18:40 News</div><div>18:50 Newsline</div><div>19:00 News</div><div>19:10 Newsline</div><div>19:30 Music</div><div>19:40 News</div><div>19:50 Newsline</div><div>20:00 News</div><div>20:10 Newsline</div><div>20:30 Music</div><div>20:40 News</div><div>20:50 Newsline</div><div>21:00 News</div><div>21:10 Newsline</div><div>21:30 Music</div><div>21:40 News</div><div>21:50 Newsline</div><div>22:00 News</div><div>22:10 Newsline</div><div>22:30 Music</div><div>22:40 News</div><div>22:50 Newsline</div><div>23:00 News</div><div>23:10 Newsline</div><div>23:30 Music</div><div>23:40 News</div><div>23:50 Newsline</div><div>24:00 News</div></div>	<div><div>memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports Club. Opening hours 9.00 a.m.-4.00 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.</div><div>SERVICE CLUBS</div><div>The Amman Lions Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Regency Palace Hotel, 7.30 p.m. Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7.30 p.m. Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m. Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2.00 p.m. Royal Automobile Club, Jabal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 816534, 817534.</div><div>CHURCHES</div><div>St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman. Tel. 624590. Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabat Luweibdeh, Tel. 637440. De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabat Hussein, Tel. 661757. Terrasanta Church (Roman Catholic), Jabat Luweibdeh, mass in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5.30 p.m. Tel. 622366. Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, Tel. 623134. Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, Tel. 625383, chaplain's residence, tel. 601339. Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 771331. Jordanian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 772361. St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, Tel. 771751. Amman International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, Tel. 677534. Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church of the Good Shepherd) Amman, Arabic Service: Sunday 7 a.m. Rev. N. Smir 811295. Rabbinic Congregation, (meets at the Good Shepherd's Church) Interdenominational-ecumenical English Service: Saturday 6.30 p.m. Tel. 822605. Rev. Veli. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormon) Tel. 518517, 821264.</div></div>	<div><div>OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)</div><div>06:30 Beirut (ME)</div><div>14:50 Moscow (SU)</div><div>15:00 Kuwait (KU)</div><div>15:10 Bucharest (RD)</div><div>15:45 Kuwait (RN)</div><div>16:40 Riyadh (SV)</div><div>17:20 Cairo (MS)</div><div>18:30 Damascus (AZ)</div><div>20:15 Dubai (EK)</div><div>QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT</div><div>This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.</div><div>ARRIVALS</div><div>ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)</div><div>06:30 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)</div><div>09:15 Agaba (RJ)</div><div>09:30 Kuwait (RJ)</div><div>09:30 Cairo (RJ)</div><div>09:40 Jeddah (RJ)</div><div>09:55 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)</div><div>10:00 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)</div><div>10:05 Laraca (RJ)</div><div>10:15 New York, Vienna (RJ)</div><div>10:30 Paris, Brussels (RJ)</div><div>10:45 Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RJ)</div><div>10:55 Istanbul (RJ)</div><div>11:00 London, Cairo (RJ)</div><div>11:05 Rome (RJ)</div><div>20:00 Rome (RJ)</div><div>OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)</div><div>13:20 Moscow (SU)</div><div>13:40 Bucharest (RO)</div><div>13:45 Kuwait (RJ)</div><div>14:05 Tripoli (LJ)</div><div>14:10 Riyadh (SV)</div><div>14:15 Cairo (MS)</div><div>14:20 Rome (RJ)</div><div>14:25 Dubai (EK)</div><div>14:30 Zurich, Laraca (RJ)</div><div>14:35 London, Cairo (BA)</div><div>DEPARTURES</div><div>ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)</div><div>07:00 Agaba (RJ)</div><div>08:30 Rome (RJ)</div><div>08:45 Tripoli (LJ)</div><div>08:50 Vienna, New York (RJ)</div><div>09:00 Belgrade, Madrid (RJ)</div><div>09:05 Geneva, London (RJ)</div><div>09:10 Istanbul (RJ)</div><div>09:15 Laraca (RJ)</div><div>09:20 Kuwait (RJ)</div><div>09:25 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)</div><div>09:30 Damascus (RJ)</div><div>09:35 Bangkok (RJ)</div><div>OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)</div><div>06:30 Beirut (ME)</div><div>14:50 Moscow (SU)</div><div>15:00 Kuwait (KU)</div><div>15:10 Bucharest (RD)</div><div>15:45 Kuwait (RN)</div><div>16:40 Riyadh (SV)</div><div>17:20 Cairo (MS)</div><div>18:30 Damascus (AZ)</div><div>20:15 Dubai (EK)</div><div>MONDAY RATES</div><div>Local sell/buy rates in Jds</div><div>Belgian franc 96.5/ 98.4</div><div>Dutch guilder 179.7/ 183.3</div><div>French franc 39.5/ 40.7</div><div>Italian lira 27.4/ 28</div><div>Japanese yen (for 100) 256.5/ 263.1</div><div>Swedish crown 55.6/ 56.7</div><div>Swiss franc 247.8/ 253.2</div><div>U.S. sterling pound 604.8/ 617.9</div><div>U.S. dollar 529.4/ 535.1</div><div>W. German mark 20.3/ 20.6</div><div>PRAYER TIMES</div><div>05:01 Fajr</div><div>06:26 Sunrise</div><div>11:30 Dhuhr</div><div>14:14 Asr</div><div>16:25 Maghreb</div><div>17:59 Isha</div><div>OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)</div><div>05:01 Fajr</div><div>06:26 Sunrise</div><div>11:30 Dhuhr</div><div>14:14 Asr</div><div>16:25 Maghreb</div><div>17:59 Isha</div><div>WEATHER</div><div>Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.</div><div>It will be partly cloudy, with north-westerly moderate winds. An increase in temperature is expected. In Agaba, it will be hazy and partly cloudy, with northerly moderate winds and calm seas.</div><div>Min./max. temp.</div><div>Amman 8 / 15</div><div>Agaba 15 / 23</div><div>Dahsh 8 / 17</div><div>Jordan Valley 12 / 23</div><div>Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 14, Agaba 22. Humidity readings: Amman 84 per cent, Agaba 51 per cent.</div></div>	<div><div>EMERGENCIES</div><div>Amman governorate 891228</div><div>Amman Civil Defence 198, 199</div><div>Civil Defence Irbid 771253, 773131</div><div>Civil Defence Qusweish 770733</div><div>Civil Defence Deir Alla 57306</div><div>Ambulance 193, 775111</div><div>Amman downtown fire brigade 198</div><div>First aid 63941</div><div>Blood Bank 778303</div><div>Civil Defence rescue 661111</div><div>Fire headquarters 622090-3</div><div>Police rescue 192, 621111, 637777</div><div>Police headquarters 639141</div><div>Traffic police 8963901</div><div>Electric Power Co. 6363814, 624881</div><div>Municipal water complaints 7711258</div><div>Queen Alia Intl. Airport (08) 5333060</div><div>HOSPITALS</div><div>Husseini Medical Centre 813813/32</div><div>Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 6442816</div><div>Al-Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 6434412</div><div>Jabal Amman Maternity 643262</div><div>Malhas, J. Amman 636140</div><div>Palestine, Sheikoni 6647114</div><div>Shmeisani Hospital 669131</div><div>University Hospital 845845</div><div>Al-Muassir Hospital 6672279</div><div>The Islamic, Abdali 6641646</div><div>Al-Ahli, Abdali 6641646</div><div>Italian, Al-Muhajreen 7771013</div><div>Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 7751126</div><div>Army, Marja 891611/15</div><div>Queen Alia Hospital 6220400</div><div>Amal Hospital 674155</div><div>GENERAL</div><div>Jordan Television 773111/19</div><div>Radio Jordan 774111-19</div><div>Ministry of Tourism 642311</div><div>Hotel complaints 893122</div><div>Price complaints 661176</div><div>Telephone Information 12</div><div>Jordan and Middle East calls 10</div><div>Overseas calls 17</div><div>Repair service 11</div><div>NIGHT DUTY</div><div>AMMAN:</div><div>Dr. Musa Bashir 615487</div><div>Dr. Joseph Mawardi 770696</div><div>Dr. Hisham Abu Arqub 881412</div><div>Firas pharmacy 661912</div><div>Ferdows pharmacy 783336</div><div>Al-Asema pharmacy 637055</div><div>Nadwara pharmacy 626762</div><div>Al-Salam pharmacy 636736</div><div>TAXIS</div><div>Karyati taxi 636730</div><div>Taxi taxi 644660</div><div>Tamer taxi 666467</div><div>Raghdan taxi 842400</div><div>Ragab taxi 736424</div><div>Seyal taxi 776131</div><div>IRBID:</div><div>Dr. Ahmad Al Hayek 275924</div><div>ZARQA:</div><div>Dr. Rabah Al Bourini 985046</div></div>
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Expatriates' transfers for investment company arrive

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Labour and Social Development announced on Monday that Jordanian expatriates have started transferring funds to Amman for the establishment of a Jordanian shareholding investment company which was approved by the third Jordanian Expatriates Conference held here last July.

The director of the ministry's Expatriate Affairs Department, Azmi Al Muhtaseb, said that the transfer covering the shares owned by Jordanians working in Kuwait arrived on Monday, and that there will be another transfer before the end of December.

According to Mr. Muhtaseb, Jordanians living in Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain will be making transfers to cover for their shares in the company by the middle of next month. The first transfer by Jordanians living in Qatar, amounting to JD 500,000, arrived here last week, Mr. Muhtaseb noted.

He also said that Jordanian banks have voiced their willingness to acquire shares in the projected company, which will be financing Jordanian projects and benefitting the expatriates at the same time.

The formation of the holding company was among the resolutions adopted by the participants in the four-day conference that also endorsed Jordan's political stands vis-a-vis the Palestine problem and regional peace efforts, as well as development plans for Jordan and the Israeli-occupied Arab territories.

The conference voiced its support for Jordan's five-year development plan and said that the expatriates will help carry out these plans by channelling their savings to investments in Jordan. The conference also recommended the establishment of an expatriates' funds in Arab countries of residence to promote social ties among members of Jordanian communities in host countries, in coordination between the Jordanian government and its diplomatic missions in Arab countries.

Jordan, Syria discuss communications links

DAMASCUS (J.T.) — Minister of Communications Muhteddin Al Hussein opened talks here on Monday with his Syrian counterpart, Mr. Murad Quatli, on cooperation between Jordan and Syria in telecommunications.

Mr. Hussein stated after the first session of talks, that bilateral cooperation in postal services and telecommunications were discussed.

Telecommunications Corpora-

tion (TCC) Director-General Mohammad Shahed Ismail and his Syrian counterpart, Mr. Makram Obeid, attended the meeting.

Mr. Hussein arrived in Damascus on Monday morning to start a two-day official visit to Syria. Before his departure, the minister said that his talks here would cover issues of common interest to both countries.

JMA lauds government's decision on health services

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai has received a cable from Dr. Mamdouh Al Abbadi, president of the Jordanian Medical Association (JMA), expressing appreciation for the government's decision on the

provision of health services to the students of private schools and community colleges in the Kingdom.

In his cable, Dr. Abbadi said that the decision met the JMA's demand for these services.



Her Royal Highness Princess Basma on Monday addresses the opening session of a seminar assessing the work and experience of social development centres in Jordan (Petra photo)

Symposium urges greater pan-Arab coordination in pharmaceutical industry

By Nermeen Murad
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Under the patronage of His Royal Highness Prince Hassan, a four-day symposium organised by the Arab Federation of Producers of Drugs and Medical Appliances (AFPDMA) opened Monday at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC).

Dr. Adnan Badran, deputising for Prince Hassan, read out a speech in which the Crown Prince urged those working in the field of pharmaceuticals in the Arab World cooperate and stay away from duplication of products and move towards specialisation in producing import-substitutes.

More work should be put towards giving priority to producing quality-oriented medicine in the Arab World, said the Crown Prince. Exchange of experiences and specialised people and developing the work to insure a better social and economic results, transferring modern technology and develop and apply it with what is needed for the development of local Arab medication, more scientific research, developing quality control centres and establishment of a research centre for drug control in the Arab World as well as setting up

an Arab code for behaviours and rules governing relations among the different Arab pharmaceutical manufacturing companies and between them and others, were also among the suggestions put forward by the Crown Prince.

Prince Hassan pointed out that spending on pharmaceuticals in the world was expected to reach around \$144 billion by 1995 — \$83 billion in developed countries and \$61 billion in developing countries.

In Jordan, Prince Hassan said that pharmaceuticals manufacturing had reached a level of equal footing with similar manufacturers in the rest of the world and that Jordanian factories had already started exporting 60 to 70 per cent of their products to some Arab countries and also to some friendly non-Arab countries.

Prince Hassan praised the move made by the AFPDMA to hold the seminar on the rules of practising good manufacturing practice (GMP) as a good step on the right road especially that seven different working shops will be held over three days to discuss details.

Ministry of Health Under-Secretary Dr. Sulaiman Al Subaihi, speaking on behalf of Health

Minister Zaid Hamzeh, told the seminar that GMP was parallel to medical security and was no less important than food security. He added this area was facing an important challenge since "we are living in a world which is currently witnessing a scientific and technological revolution" and that this had created a gap separating the different countries, even the developed ones.

Dr. Abdul Mutaleb Abdul Ghani Nassir, vice president of the AFPDMA, delivered a speech stressing the importance of having solid scientific bases to govern GMP since it was "not enough any more for the final medical product to be in accord with designed specification," and since there were other factors to be considered such as the way the product was manufactured, where, and the different production steps adopted as well as the steps of control and whether control extends over the life of the product.

Dr. Nassir said the main aim of this seminar was to discuss possible recommendations which would lead to establishing drug control guidelines to be handed over to the Arab Health ministers council for approval and adoption.

Princess Basma praises achievements of Jordan's social development centres

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan is keen on promoting voluntary social work and the East Bank of Jordan alone boasts 400 charitable and 31 voluntary societies involved in various humanitarian and voluntary activities, Her Royal Highness Princess Basma said on Monday.

Addressing the opening session of a three-day seminar to assess the work and experience of social development centres in the Kingdom, Princess Basma said that thanks to private and public organisations involved in social work in cooperation with the Ministry of Labour and Social Development, Jordan has progressed greatly in social development.

This seminar, the Princess said, was called to conduct a scientific assessment of these societies by reviewing working papers prepared by specialists. The seminar is ultimately, designed to help promote social work in the Kingdom, Princess Basma emphasised.

The seminar has been organised by the Queen Alia Jordan Social Welfare Fund (QAJSWF), in cooperation with the Konrad Adenauer Foundation of West Germany, whose representative delivered a speech stressing that social development schemes should be linked to the human

needs and aspirations of a society, and should work towards releasing the potentials of individuals by encouraging personal initiatives.

These, he said, are the basic ideas of the foundation, which cooperate with 180 establishments and organisations in 50 nations in an effort to promote the role of social development centres and, thereby, the development processes in these countries.

The seminar's first session discussed two working papers on social development centres in Jordan and case studies of different countries' experiences in the field of social development.

The first paper addressed the objectives of social development schemes in the Kingdom, the nature of their activities and programmes, the training of personnel in social development activities and sources of revenue for and the financial conditions of these centres.

The paper also described the work of the QAJSWF and the activities of its 17 centres around the Kingdom, particularly their programmes for developing local communities.

The second paper focused attention on the objectives of a pilot development project in Sudan and described the role of social development centres in Sudan's five-year economic plan.

The work of voluntary and community centres in Jordan is to be covered by the remaining papers, which offer suggestions for improving the performance of these centres within the context of the current five-year national development plan.

The participants are scheduled today to tour a number of social and community centres in Amman.

Attending the opening session were several Cabinet members, officials representing the ministries of agriculture, youth, planning, health, education, municipal and rural affairs, labour and social development, as well as representatives of the Jordanian universities, community centres, the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) and the QAJSWF.

Senate refers draft laws to committees

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Upper House (Senate) of Parliament on Monday met under the chairmanship of its speaker, Ahmad Al Lawzi, and in the presence of Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and Cabinet ministers.

The Senate referred to its Legal Committee a draft amendment to a law on the Jordanian Economic and Social Organisation for Retired Servicemen and a draft amendment to a law on the service of army officers.

The Senate referred to its Financial Committee a draft

amendment to the 1987 budget and an amendment to a law on extra fees for students at the University of Jordan, Yarmouk University and Mu'ta University, as well as a draft approval of a loan from the Saudi Development Fund to the Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) to finance the construction of its medical faculty and a loan to Jordan from the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development, which will be used to finance the construction of the Aqaba Thermal Power Station's second phase.

In addition, the Senate endorsed a draft law for the establishment of Jordan's first judicial academy, responsible for the training of personnel to fill judiciary posts and upgrading the qualifications of judges and jurists already working in public institutions.



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University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171-6, 670141-4

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

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Time for debt action

THE distress calls made earlier this month by the summits of Latin American and African nations for concrete action to alleviate their suffering from a staggering debt burden have largely gone unanswered by creditor nations facing the bitter prospects of economic adjustments they have been eagerly prescribing for indebted states.

Although the tone and wordings of the declarations from both the summits were different, the underlying message was the same: Act immediately before the situation gets out of hand. The absence of any confrontational rhetoric in the declarations was mostly due to recognition of difficult economic times as the summits were held against the backdrop of a worldwide stock market crash giving rise to fears of a global recession. Such an eventuality would definitely limit the choices for a fruitful action on the debt front.

But such fears should not undermine the gravity of the situation. The African countries are reeling under a debt load of \$200 billion which is expected to reach some half trillion dollars by the turn of the century. Debt servicing costs these countries more than they could afford and in some cases is more than 200 per cent of their export earnings. Latin American countries have already paid more than \$150 billion in the last five years without any sign of a turnaround in their overall debt burden of about \$380 billion.

If the situation is allowed to deteriorate further, the debtor states may not be left with any choice but to embark upon joint action on the lines taken unilaterally by Brazil and Peru. The announcement of an aid package of \$6.4 billion for African states may be a step in the right direction but the amount will undoubtedly be insufficient for a significant recovery of economies crippled by droughts, famines and civil wars.

The debt crisis has assumed alarming dimensions mainly because of a lack of political will on the part of creditor nations to resolve it. The attempts made so far have been mostly an exercise in balancing the numbers. Rescheduling agreements, bridging loans and rescue packages were basically aimed at squaring the books and keeping the debtors creditworthy. The banks pumped more and more money to keep their loans performing and avoid default. As a result the vicious circle has kept on growing. Latin Americans paid in debt servicing an amount equivalent to two Marshall Plans. The situation has come to such a pass that the creditworthiness of major commercial banks in the United States is under review.

The crisis has no doubt grown beyond banks to handle alone and calls for political decision-making at the highest level. The governments should intervene now to rescue both the debtors and creditors; otherwise any problems the banks may face will reverberate in the financial system already shaken by the market crash. Besides the efforts, already under way, to correct trade and fiscal imbalances in the industrialised countries should not end there. The stock market crisis has demonstrated the global nature of their economies and attention should be paid to imbalances in the world economy. In order to restore this balance, a solution to the debt crisis has to be found which would breathe a new life into Third World economies — Arab News.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Rai: King confident over future

KING Hussein's interview with the Lebanese newspaper As Safir reflected his deep optimism about future Arab action and the favourable Arab situation. He said that the successful summit has placed the Arabs face to face with a new situation, and his contacts with Arab leaders have helped to strengthen the Arab stand and to corroborate the outcome of the Amman summit meeting. The King said that the Arab region will witness a positive development in the near future and that he was confident that the Arabs will strengthen their ranks and work together for the benefit of the whole Arab Nation. On Palestine, the King said that it remains the central issue which attracts the attention of Arab countries, and therefore the positive Arab stand can boost all efforts for finding a just solution for this problem. The King also reiterated Jordan's demand for an international conference where the PLO as well as all other parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict can discuss the question and reach permanent peace. The idea of the conference, he said, has won the support of the majority of world nations, but Israel continues to oppose the idea and obstruct the path of peace. Nevertheless, King Hussein's optimism clearly reflects his feelings that future inter-Arab cooperation and solidarity among Arab states can and will be maintained and that positive results are to be expected in the near future.

Al Dustour: Joint Arab action furthered

IN an interview with the As Safir newspaper King Hussein gave a detailed description of the situation in the Arab World following the successful Arab summit meeting in Amman last month. He also voiced Jordan's views and stands vis-a-vis the different problems facing the Arab Nation. The monarch said that the situation prevailing in the Arab World at present is positive and reflects the outcome of the Amman summit and its resolutions. The King said that the basis has been laid down for pan-Arab action which is expected to fulfil Arab aspirations, and that the summit was only the start of a new and constructive stage in pan-Arab action. King Hussein reiterated that the Palestine question remains at the centre of Arab concern and that this issue was given full attention by the Arab leaders in Amman last month.

Sawt Al Shaab: Summit opened door for Arab solidarity

THE Amman summit meeting last month has, as King Hussein said in a newspaper interview on Sunday, paved the way for a Syrian-Iraqi summit meeting in the near future and has also created positive atmosphere for the Arab leaders to work together in greater harmony. There is no doubt that an Iraqi-Syrian summit would yield constructive results, benefiting the whole Arab Nation and helping the Arabs to confront their common challenges. The Amman summit has finally rallied the Arabs to work together and opened the door for inter-Arab reconciliation; and perhaps the common threats were instrumental in fusing Arab endeavours; and the common challenges united the Arab leaders' stands and prompted them to work in harmony for the benefit of their countries. There is no doubt that the divisions in Arab ranks were behind the weakness of the Arab Nation in the past and therefore, the King's efforts to rally the Arabs and to coordinate their position will win more credibility for the Arab Nation at all levels.

The View From Second Circle

Garbage — underlined, creative and (apparently) ineluctable

By Rami G. Khoury

THERE IS something perpetually curious, often egregious, and frequently embarrassing, about the application of the United States' power and morality beyond its borders. I have always considered myself a friend of the United States, and an admirer of American principles of personal freedom, participatory democracy, the due process of law and, above all, the consent of the governed. These principles were forged in medieval English hellies, championed by 18th Century French revolutionaries, widely implemented by 18th, 19th and 20th Century Americans, and, since the turn of the century, when the Arab east was under Ottoman control, have been admired and sought by the vast majority of Arab people. There is an innate greatness to the American processes of government and order, which are easy to see and appreciate. This is why it is so baffling that the United States government, once outside its borders, should act with so little grandeur, and with so much ignominy.

Listen to this statement, made a few days ago: "Unlimited power, exercised in the name of universalist ideologies, often tries to extend its control beyond borders, denying other peoples their human rights and self-determination."

Sounds like a description of Israeli policy towards the Palestinians, doesn't it? The author of the statement was none other than Ronald Reagan, commemorating Human Rights Day and Human Rights Week.

The quotation goes on: "Standing against these dangers are those people the world over who, undaunted by tremendous odds and great personal risk, continue to press for individual rights and freedoms. Their courageous struggle for human dignity is a triumph in itself..."

Jeeze, Ron, sounds like the sort of thing most people in the Arab World were saying two weeks ago about those Arab fellows who flew motorised hand-gliders into northern Israel, where they attacked an Israeli army camp; try it again, close your eyes, and think of Jerusalem... "Undaunted by tremendous odds and great personal risk... are people who continue to press for individual rights and freedoms..."

Conspicuously absent from the list of peoples around the world

Results of unemployment research

(Continued from page 1)

caused by the surpluses in the labour supply resulting from the influx of a large number of Jordanian graduates from local and foreign universities and colleges.

According to the study, 55 per cent of the total unemployed were married "which causes serious problems for married persons since they usually have to work to make a living for themselves and other dependents."

It noted that the unemployment problem was "more severe" among community college and university graduates, accounting for 40 per cent of total unemployed. However, based on 1986 figures published by the Civil Service Commission, this percentage was 49.

According to the study, two out of three unemployed have less than five years of work experience. "It has also been noticed that high educational levels among the unemployed are associated with little work experience which calls for training programmes."

About 58 per cent of the unemployed have searched for jobs for six months at the most, while one out of five has been unemployed for one year or more. In general, the duration of unemployment is longer for females than for males, the study noted.

It pointed out that "major structural changes occurred among the unemployed over the period between 1982 and 1986. That means that the percentage of the unemployed professionals out of the total unemployed has increased from eight per cent to 19.1 per cent in 1986."

"There are more poor unemployed than rich ones," the study said, implying that most unem-

ployed Americans and Ronald Reagan would like to see enjoy the fruits of human rights, freedom and self-determination are the Palestinians. And we continue to ask: Why? There is no valid reason for this sustained American display of moral and political double standards. It is sheer perfidy — the triumph of fear over courage, of weakness over strength, of lies over honesty, of transparent horse-trading practised by mercantile politicians over the ability of public leaders and statesmen and women to honour their national ideals.

Talking of which, did you hear what the United States had to say last week at the United Nations General Assembly about resolving the Arab-Israeli conflict? If you missed it, here are some highlights from the U.S. representative's statement: "My government supports legitimate Palestinian rights, but it regrets this body's (General Assembly's) steps to institutionalise a one-sided perspective... The United States government does not rule out any avenue — including an international conference — for reaching the bilateral negotiations ineluctably required to settle the protracted conflict and resolve its complex issues, including the Palestinian problem in all its aspects. It will take flexibility, imagination and courage on all sides to reach the negotiating table. (The way forward) is to try to find an agreed framework for launching negotiations on the basis of U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, to achieve a just, lasting and comprehensive peace which resolves the Palestinian problem in all its aspects."

How pleasant those phrases sound, how apparently reasonable and moderate: but how hollow they ring, coming from the government of the United States, which has considerable gall to use the word "ineluctable", when it has established new international records of defying the ineluctable in its refusal to accept the Palestinian right of national self-determination. We hear the United States speak of "Palestinian legitimate rights", and express its desire to resolve the Palestinian problem "in all its aspects". But what do these phrases mean? What legal weight do they carry? More importantly, what do they tell us about the moral and political failure of the United States government to come to terms with Palestinian rights to self-determination, freedom and human rights?

Why cannot the American government summon the strength and self-confidence inherent in Jeffersonian democracy, and accept publicly that the Palestinian people have the same rights as the Israeli people? Why, in front of the whole world, does the American delegate at the United Nations have to invoke the hocus-pocus of "flexibility, imagination and courage," when it would be so much easier if he applied, instead, the concepts of honesty, and the political inevitability of historical reality?

That reality is that the Palestinians will have a free and self-determinant state (call it what you will: statelet, confederated state, mini-state, Yasser's Patch), and that a negotiated peace will happen when the Israelis and the Palestinians are offered equal measures of dignity and human rights. If the Israelis are not yet prepared to accept the Palestinians as equals, with reciprocal human, political and national rights, and the United States is not prepared to significantly dissociate itself from Israeli policy while providing Israel with an average of \$3 billion a year, then it behoves Americans who truly appreciate freedom and the grandeur of their moral heritage, to stop mouthing hypocritical and diversionary phrases about flexibility, courage, one-sided perspectives and other such — as they say in the land of Lincoln — hokum.

Earlier this week, the U.S. State Department, commenting on the recent series of killings of Palestinians by Israeli troops in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, noted that "we (the United States) are deeply saddened by the deaths and woundings of Palestinian young people in the West Bank and Gaza over the past few days, and the killing of an Israeli civilian in Gaza. These deaths

confirm once again that violence breeds further violence, and underlines the need for both sides to avoid further confrontations."

Garbage. Official, on-the-record garbage. The only thing statements of this sort underline, for those in the underlining business, is the inevitability of the cycle of violence continuing. What else should we expect if the United States finances one of the longest military occupations of the 20th Century, refuses to accept the Palestinians' right to national self-determination, and then suggests that we should all take it easy and be good boys? When some Americans in the 1950s and 60s suggested the same blinkered approach to the activism of American blacks, all hell broke loose. American cities burned, the blacks and many of their white supporters fought for full human, civil and political rights, and the American nation finally seriously addressed, and largely redressed, the grievances of black Americans. When women and other American minorities demanded equal rights and full civil liberties in the 60s and 70s, a similar pattern followed.

So why is it that when the dispossessed are Palestinians, and the dispossessing are the American-funded Israelis, that the otherwise noble American political heritage suddenly cracks, crumbles and fails grievously? Why does the United States support the self-determination of virtually everyone else in the world except the Palestinians, for whom it creates a fanciful diplomatic universe inhabited by ghosts called "legitimate rights," "just aspirations," and "the Palestinian problem in all its aspects" — veritable mirage which, when one tries to grasp them, prove untenable, literally figuratively and in all their aspects?

These are not new issues, or new questions. But the on-going resistance and violence in the West Bank and Gaza, the deaths of dozens of Israelis and Palestinians in the past several months, the Palestinian attack against the Israeli military base, the American government's closure of the PLO information office in Washington and other recent acts and trends indicate that the perpetual denial of Palestinian rights will result in a perpetual cycle of political and military violence. Americans and their media might like to see the Arab World turning away from the Palestine issue in favour of addressing the dangers of the Gulf war. It's not so simple, or neat. The Arab people are probably capable of dealing with more than one challenge at a time. If that is misperceived in the West, that's the West's problem, not our reality.

We come back to the American legacy of Jeffersonian democracy and personal liberties, which we admire, though more within America's frontiers than beyond them. People throughout the Arab World have fought for the same liberties for most of this century — an appropriate fact to be noted by us in Jordan, where resides the heritage of Sherif Hussein of Mecca's political efforts with the British in the quest for Arab freedom from Ottoman rule. We sought freedom from a Western power then and received duplicity in return: as we seek freedom for the Palestinians today, we receive American duplicity in return. Some things never seem to change.

The energies and potential of the Arab World are largely dormant today; but when they are awakened, ignited, and perhaps united — when Arab lives, societies and economic/political order are driven by forces which are not always visible today, forces of rationality, commitment and hard work — there may emerge in the world a formidable new Arab force, principled, purposeful and proud. Such a force will — in the best American and Western tradition — seek a redress of grievance. Wronged folk fight back.

This is the — (gulp) ineluctable — lesson of history. It would do the world well if those American officials who presume to stand above the forces of history, dispensing moral directives, political suasion and other horatory nonsense, to come down to earth and accept their role in the enduring cycle of Arab-Israeli violence. Or are we to believe that \$3 billion annual American aid to Israel is totally without cost or responsibility?



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Joint transport company announces JD 3m profit

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Iraqi-Jordanian Land Transport Company (IJLTC) this year made a JD 3 million profit from its operations by transporting goods between Jordan and Iraq and between these two and other Arab countries, according to an announcement made on Monday.

The announcement was made by the company's director general, Jamil Ibrahim, who said that the IJLTC improved its efficiency and performance through training its personnel and cutting down on expenses.

The announcement came at a meeting of the IJLTC's board of directors, under the chairmanship of Mr. Mu'tazz Al Bubeisi.

Mr. Ibrahim said that the board would, in its two-day meet-

ing discuss the company's financial and production reports and endorse a budget and a general plan for next year's production. The reports give details on the volume of goods transported during the past 11 months by the company's fleet of trucks — a volume of 1.34 million tonnes, according to Mr. Ibrahim.

He said that the figure represents an increase of 16.6 per cent over the planned volume for 1987, and of 22.5 per cent over the figures from the same period last year. "Transporting more goods," he said, "means making more profits for the company."

The board meeting precedes the company's general assembly meetings, due to open here on Wednesday.

Panel to tackle problem of unemployed journalists

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan will patronise a seminar on the problems of graduates from journalism departments at community colleges and universities, to be held on Dec. 19.

The president of the Jordanian Journalists Association, Mr. Rakan Al Majali, said that the

two-day seminar will tackle a number of working papers dealing with unemployment among these graduates.

The papers were prepared by the Ministry of Higher Education, the Ministry of Education, the Civil Service Commission and Yarmouk University.



An example of the Chinese paintings currently on exhibit at the Royal Cultural Centre as part of a Chinese Traditional Painters Goodwill mission.

Taiwanese exhibition to promote bilateral relations

By a Reporter

AMMAN — With a view to promoting the bilateral cultural relations between Taiwan and Jordan, a Chinese Traditional Painters Goodwill Mission from Taipei will visit Jordan from Dec. 15 to 19.

The mission is composed of

five well-known artists and professors in Taiwan, who will bring with them sixty Chinese paintings for exhibition.

The exhibition of their works will take place at the Royal Cultural Centre from Dec. 17 to 18, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and from 4:00 p.m. till 6:00 p.m. Admittance is free.

Two more Arabs killed in occupied territories

(Continued from page 1)

including schoolchildren and lycée pupils who face the Israeli war machine with a rare courage and unique self-sacrifice," Mr. Klibi said in a statement.

Mr. Klibi said the incidents showed Israel's contempt for human rights and international agreements, including the Geneva convention.

"This revolt... underlines the depth of Arab rejection to occupation and the Palestinian people's attachment to its inalienable legitimate rights, above all its right to self-determination," he said.

Seventeen Palestinians were wounded Monday by Israeli gunfire in Gaza and the occupied West Bank, army officials and Israel Radio said. The army said two were in serious condition in Israeli hospitals.

Knots of stone-throwing Arab protesters clashed with Israeli soldiers Monday all along the 40-kilometre stretch of the Gaza Strip and in most West Bank cities.

Israeli police, meanwhile, arrested 22 suspects in connection with a firebomb attack on the U.S. consulate in Arab Jerusalem.

The two homemade gasoline bombs sparked a fire that was extinguished promptly by a guard, but caused no injuries.

"We are looking at this as an isolated incident," consulate spokesman David Goode told AP. "Obviously we are going to stay on our guard, but we aren't taking any extraordinary precautions."

The most serious protest Monday was at Khan Yunis in the southern part of the Gaza Strip. As hundreds of protesters hurled rocks and bottles, Israeli troops shot and killed Hassan Abu Jaroun, 25.

No Israeli cars were seen and stone-throwing demonstrators tried to prevent local people getting to work in Israel, witnesses said.

Israeli troops who dispersed demonstrators in Gaza City patrolled the city armed with assault rifles, tear-gas grenades and long wooden clubs.

Officials of the U.N. Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), which cares for over 300,000 Palestinian refugees in the teaming Gaza Strip, said they had reports of injuries by gunfire in refugee camps at Rafah and Al Bureij.

Bernard Mills, the British UNRWA operations chief for the Gaza Strip, said he warned Israeli authorities a year ago that they would have problems maintaining order if they did not change their tactics.

"But we saw nothing of any form of training or new equipment for fighting against schoolchildren and I am saddened to see that a small segment of the army and the border police enjoy clubbing youths or using their guns, and officers do nothing to check them," Mr. Mills said.

Senior civic leader Faez Abu Rahme said the Gaza protests were "the fruit of 20 years of suppression, frustration and Israel's refusal of any settlement of the situation, particularly through an international conference."

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat said Monday that the violence in the occupied territories was part of a "massacre" Israel had planned several weeks ago, but postponed at Washington's urging until after the U.S.-Soviet summit.

He said Israel would not have moved against the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip without U.S. President Ronald Reagan's blessings.

RJ expects JD 1.7m profit

(Continued from page 1)

foreign exchange profits and losses. Part of this profit would come from the sale to British Caledonian of one of the airline's two Boeing 747s. The rest was to come from operating and non-operating profits, mainly from handling services to foreign airlines flying to Jordan.

RJ carried a total of nearly 1.2 million passengers — an eight per cent growth — over last year, with the largest growth of 78 per cent in the airline's flights to North Africa, followed by a 12 per cent growth in routes to North America. Other increases in passenger growth were by five per cent to Europe, six per cent to the Far East, and two per cent to the Gulf. However, growth on flights to Baghdad, Damascus and Cairo decreased by 11 per cent from the 1986 figures. The seat factor productivity rose to nearly 60 per cent from 51.5 per cent in 1986 and its cargo service ferried 46.163 tonnes (including 910 tonnes of mail) from last year's 43,000 tonnes.

Total hours of flight were 45,209 hours, a six per cent increase. The RJ chairman said preliminary indicators for the company's 1988 budget anticipate a 9.8 per cent increase in gross revenues and an increase in expenditures by 4.7 per cent in contrast with 1987.

Discussing other aspects of the airline's 1987 financial achievements, Mr. Ghandour said the operation of the company's "economic" A310-300 Airbus on medium range routes helped the company save JD 2 million by cutting down on fuel.

Other revenues were also generated from cooperating with other airline companies. One of RJ's Tristars was used by Sudan Air in flights linking Khartoum with various European capitals.

The company's Boeing 747s was also used by an Indonesian company for special charter flights. In addition, RJ also helped in operating flights for the African Air, and in cooperation with Air Panama managed to link the Panamese capital with Miami, Florida.

In 1988, RJ plans new routes to Montreal, Miami, New Delhi and Calcutta. New routes introduced this year were Helsinki, Sbarjab and Moscow, in addition to linking Paris and Dakar via a regular weekly flight.

Mr. Ghandour said the airline gained from the declining price of the dollar because 80 per cent of its total debt was dominated in the American currency, while the balance sheet on these debts is settled in Jordanian dinars. "We make profit by the dollar's loss in value by reducing the value of our loans," he said.

He said that the decline in the price of dollar did not affect the company's revenues since not more than 30 per cent of the company's total sales was done in the U.S. currency. The rest are done in West German, Japanese, French and other currencies whose value increased by the devaluation of the dollar.

The company's expected operational profits of JD 1.7 million were partly due to an eight per cent increase in passenger traffic this year. In previous statements given to the Jordan Times, RJ officials expected a net profit of JD 4 million on the basis of the first months' results excluding

Report lists Israeli offences last month in occupied territories

AMMAN (Petra) — The Israeli occupation authorities last month confiscated 266 dunums of Arab land in the West Bank, bringing the total area of seized Arab land to 2,751,756 dunums since the 1967 war, according to a report released on Monday by the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs.

The report said that the Israeli authorities last month demolished 12 Arab homes, detained 13 Arab citizens, imposed curfews on three refugee camps, closed down six schools in Gaza, sentenced 136 Arab citizens to imprisonment, imposed house arrest on 10 others, issued orders for the deportation of an Arab citizen from Gaza and violated Arab human rights on numerous occasions.

The report also revealed that 130 dunums of Arab-owned land near Bethlehem have been annexed to the Israeli Irtat settlement near the Arab town.

According to the report, the Knesset has endorsed plans and

allocated funds for the establishment of six new settlements in the occupied West Bank within the next six months. By the end of this year, it said, the total number of people living in Israeli settlements will reach 58,000, marking a sharp increase from the population of 21,000 who lived in the settlements three years ago.

In the course of building settlements and consolidating the Israeli presence in the occupied Arab land, the occupation authorities last month uprooted trees in the regions of Qalqilia, Housan, Bethlehem, Wadi Foukin, Nablus, Ramallah and Gaza, the report pointed out.

It said that Israeli settlers assaulted Arab citizens, cut off water supplies from large areas of agricultural land in Gaza causing many crops to dry and tampered with Muslim cemeteries in the Ramallah district. Armed settlers attacked Arab farmers living near Oud Yusef settlement, stealing JD 1,500 and the farmers' identity cards and other important

documents, the report continued. In addition, Jewish extremists set fire to a church in Arab Jerusalem causing extensive damage. The attack on the church was the fourth of its kind against Christian centres over the past five years, the report noted.

The report said that the Israeli authorities were continuing their human rights violations designed to force the Arabs to abandon their homeland. During 1987 the total number of people killed by Israeli troops in the occupied Arab territories was 50, and hundreds of others were injured, the report said.

Reports from the occupied territories speak of the inhuman treatment accorded to Arab detainees in Israeli jails and mass arrests of innocent civilians for interrogation under any pretext, the report pointed out. It said that the Israeli authorities impose restrictions on the movement of Arabs within the occupied territories and ban on their travel abroad.

Hamzeh stresses need for primary eye care to protect against blindness

By Sana Atiyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Primary eye care should be provided by the health sector at outpatient centres where fully trained doctors should be available to diagnose and offer the proper treatment for minor ailments and transfer acute cases to eye specialists, Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh said Monday.

Opening a World Health Organisation (WHO) meeting on primary eye care, Dr. Hamzeh said offering protection against blindness was one of the most important responsibilities of primary eye care.

Studies conducted on the blind in Jordan showed that 40 per cent of the cases resulted from intermarriages, Dr. Hamzeh said. "Health education in this field is very important and awareness and proper medical care can prevent many eye diseases," he said.

The minister said that since the beginning of the current scholastic year the Ministry of Health supplied free eyeglasses to needy schoolchildren from first to ninth grades.

The director of primary health care, Suleiman Qubain, told the meeting that information on blindness in Jordan was insufficient and inaccurate. He called for a general survey to collect accurate statistics.

Dr. Qubain also urged health education campaigns on eye diseases and how to prevent them.



Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh chairs a Monday meeting on primary eye care sponsored by the World Health Organisation (Petra photo)

He noted that the ministry had already launched intensive training courses on eye diseases for doctors and staff working in the health centres around the country.

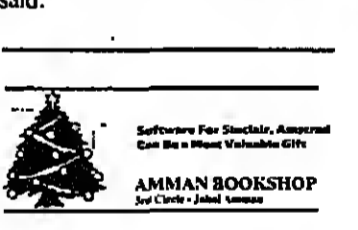
A 1986 seminar held in Jordan on primary eye care recommended that primary health care should include eye care and treatment for ailments at all the health centres in the Kingdom.

Speaking on Monday on behalf of the WHO regional director, Mohammad Wahdan said that the two aims of the WHO programmes for prevention of blindness were to reduce avoidable blindness in developing countries and to ensure basic eye care was available to all people in the world. He added that a rate of one per cent of blindness in a community indicates that there is a health problem that involves avoidable blindness.

"The Eastern Mediterranean region has an overall blindness rate of approximately three per cent," he said. "With a present

population of some 320 million, this means that the region has 9.6 million blind people of whom some eight million need not have been blind." He added that this number makes it a great public health problem, since at least one of the four major causes of avoidable blindness is present in each country in the region.

Dr. Wahdan said the WHO's efforts in the region were in line with the WHO's global target. This target includes implementation of national blindness prevention programmes in 60 developing countries by 1989. About 50 such programmes are already under way and 10 of these are in the Eastern Mediterranean region, the WHO representative said.



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Jordanian globe-stroller reaches Saudi Arabia

AMMAN (J.T.) — Walid Amayreh, who set off last month on a round-the-globe trip in six years, has now reached Tabouk, Saudi Arabia, and is en route to Medina. In a telephone conversation with Radio Jordan on Monday, the 24-year-old Jordanian said he had already crossed the Saudi borders on the first leg of his journey outside Jordan. "I've taken photographs of places and kept a day-to-day diary of my trip hitherto," Mr. Amayreh told on the air radio programme. Mr. Amayreh said he hopes to write a book on his trip, which, he described, as the first adventure of its kind to be undertaken by an Arab.

According to Mr. Amayreh's account, walking through Jordan and the Arab world will take him 2 years while the second leg of his trek is scheduled to take four years covering Europe, North America, Asia, Australia and Africa.

Lakers come from behind to beat Cavaliers

NEW YORK (AP) — For one half against the Cleveland Cavaliers, the Los Angeles Lakers looked like anything but defending NBA champions.

The Lakers had 19 turnovers, shot 39.4 per cent and trailed by as many as 11 points in the first half Sunday in their first home appearance following a five-game eastern road trip.

"Our passing in the first half was comical," coach Pat Riley said after the Lakers came back to defeat the Cavaliers 90-89. "At halftime, I didn't have to yell and scream. I just wrote the number 19 (turnovers) on the blackboard. I thought we played a solid second half."

In the only other NBA games Sunday night, Dallas defeated Milwaukee 113-99 and Atlanta beat Sacramento 106-100.

Mavericks 113, Bucks 99

Dallas won its fifth straight game, outscoring Milwaukee 43-29 in the fourth quarter as Sam Perkins scored 11 of his 21 points in the period. Mark Aguirre had 20 points for the Mavericks.

Hawks 106, Kings 100

Atlanta handed Sacramento its eighth consecutive defeat as Dominique Wilkins continued his hot streak with 28 points. The Hawks took their biggest lead at 85-62 with 11:27 left in the game, but a 36-16 spurt by the Kings brought them within three with 26 seconds remaining. Reggie Theus, who finished with a season-high 35 points, sparked the Sacramento rally.



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Kenyan runs away with 3rd straight Honolulu race win

Dutch runner 1st woman finisher for 3rd consecutive year

HONOLULU (AP) — Ibrahim Hussein did not want to win the 1987 Honolulu Marathon only for himself. He also wanted to win for Ernie Severn.

Sunday, he won both for himself and Severn, a regional manager for Adidas, who died Nov. 27 of a heart attack at the age of 53.

"I had to win it for him this time," Hussein said, after overcoming terrible weather conditions — wind, rain and humidity — plus a strong world-class field and becoming the first consecutive three-time winner of the Honolulu Marathon.

"He was like a father figure to me. I dedicated this race to him," Hussein said. He first met Severn while running for the University of New Mexico.

"He bought me a ticket to go to my first road race," the Kenyan said. That race was the bloomsday 12-kilometre event at Spokane, Washington, in 1984, "and I won," Hussein said.

This was Hussein's third appearance in the Honolulu Marathon and he has yet to lose. However, unlike the first two times, he did not break the course record. Instead, he slogged

through 26 miles, 385 yards of the picturesque but wet streets of Honolulu in two hours, 18 minutes, 26 seconds.

That did not compare favourably with his winning times of 2:12:08 in 1985 or 2:11:44 in 1986, and even less favourably with his winning time of 2:11:01 in the New York City Marathon Nov. 1.

However, the weather conditions did not compare favourably with any of those races, either.

Heavy rainstorms, beginning Friday night, had inundated the course, which included spectacular ocean views alongside world famous Waikiki Beach, and Diamond Head and Koko Head craters.

The competition was gone after the fifth mile, when Suleiman Nyambui of Tanzania, last year's runner-up, dropped out because of pain in his left hamstring, an injury suffered about 10 days in training at El Paso, Texas.

Hussein needed no help, except against the clock.

He won by a minute over Gidamis Shahanga of Tanzania, who finished second in 2:19:36.

Bill Reifsnider was the first American, finishing third in 2:21:09.

Among the other notable finishers were: Finland's Martti Vainio, sixth in 2:26:55; Sweden's Kjell-Erik Stahl, 41, seventh overall and the first masters finisher, in 2:31:07; Americans Benji Durden and Jon Sinclair, eighth and 10th, respectively, in 2:31:31 and 2:32:42, and 1972 Olympic champion Frank Shorter, 15th in 2:35:34.

Shorter came in one place behind Carla Beuerskens of the Netherlands, the first woman's finisher for the third consecutive year, in 2:35:11.

She was followed by 1985 Boston Marathon woman's winner Lisa Weidenbach in 2:37:43, and fellow Americans Kellie Chathey in 2:43:55 and Cyndie Welte 2:45:25.

In addition to Nyambui, the elite dropouts included Filbert Bayi of Tanzania, who left after 20 miles because of an apparent broken bone in his right foot.

Bills, Colts and Dolphins advance as NFL season draws to a close

NEW YORK (AP) — The AFC East jumble, which has featured everything from two-way tie to five-way ties, now has three teams atop the division with two weeks left in the NFL season.

Buffalo beat Indianapolis 27-3 Sunday, while Miami took Philadelphia 28-10. That put the Bills, Colts and Dolphins at 7-6.

New England beat the New York Jets 42-20.

The three-way tie in the AFC Central was reduced to two teams when Cleveland defeated Cincinnati 38-20.

Pittsburgh beat San Diego 20-16 and New Orleans knocked out Houston with a 24-10 victory.

But things got tighter in the AFC West with Seattle's 28-21 victory over Denver. The Seahawks are a half-game behind Denver and tied with the Chargers.

Minnesota, seeking to join New Orleans as an NFC wild-card team, was stymied Sunday when it lost at Green Bay 10-10. St. Louis and the Los Angeles Rams stayed in wild-card contention, however.

The Cardinals outlasted the New York Giants 27-24, while the Rams beat Atlanta 33-0. NFC East winner Washington beat Dallas 24-20. In other games, it was Kansas City 16, the Los Angeles Raiders, 10, and Detroit 20, Tampa Bay 10.

San Francisco was hosting Chicago on Monday night. Both teams have clinched NFC playoff spots.

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Austrian slalom champs secure season's 3rd triumph

LEUKERBAD, Switzerland (AP) — The women's World Cup competition neared its Christmas break after slalom specialist Ida Ladstaetter, a six-season veteran, won her first ever World Cup race Sunday, helping the Austrian team to its third victory this season.

But Michela Figini, the 1984 Olympic downhill champion from Switzerland, retained her lead in the overall World Cup standings after back-to-back wins in Friday's downhill and Saturday's Super-G races.

Teammate Brigitte Oertli captured the combined event, a paper race based on downhill and slalom results, to raise to five the number of Swiss victories.

Three more women's races are scheduled before Christmas, a special slalom, a giant slalom and a parallel slalom in Italy Dec. 19-22.

The three-day, 4th graf, sports — women's World Cup ski.

The three-day competition at this Valais Alps resort was shadowed by the terrifying spill of American downhill specialist Tori Piller of Park City, Utah, who suffered serious, multiple fractures when she crashed against a steel finish post during the Super-G race.

Ladstaetter, 22, and rated among the prettiest entries, was overjoyed after she had finished the two-beat slalom, edging Sweden's Camilla Nilsson by four hundredths of a second. "I had to wait long for this," she said.

Blanca Fernandez-Ochoa, who had won the season's opener at Sestriere, Italy, Nov. 26, was third, trailing Ladstaetter by 0.19. This lifted the Spanish all-rounder to second overall place in the standings, with 61 points, behind Figini.

Karen Percy of Canada, 17th, was the best non-European finisher in the slalom. With her eighth place in Friday's downhill, she collected 15 World Cup points in the combined.

Dianne Roffe, finishing 19th, led the U.S. entries, Beth Madsen was 24th and Pam Fletcher was 30th and last. Fifty-two entries did not finish the races.

Piller's injuries, including a fractured pelvis and right femur, are expected to ground her for a year, according to Chip Woods, head U.S. women's coach. Her accident was the latest in a streak of bad luck hitting the American team. Tamara McKinney, the 1983 overall World Cup champion, broke a leg in pre-season training. Debbie Armstrong suffered a dislocated fibula last summer and Eva Twardokens is lost for the season with a severe knee injury.

Woods said he will formally propose that International Ski Federation (ISF) rules be amended to avoid a repetition of Piller's accident. "They should never have allowed such an obstacle in the finish area," he said in an interview with the Associated Press.

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U.S. economists make gloomier forecast for next year

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States could be in a recession by the end of 1988 because of a loss of consumer confidence following the October stock market collapse, the nation's business economists said Monday.

The National Association of Business Economists said its latest quarterly survey, taken at the end of November, reflected growing pessimism following the record plunge in stock prices on Oct. 19.

Many of the economists for the nation's largest corporations have moved up the date when they believe the next recession will begin.

Half of those surveyed now believe the next downturn will start before the end of next year. In the previous survey taken in August, only one-third were that pessimistic.

Mr. Jerry Jordan, the association's official who compiled the survey, cited the stock market decline and growing disenchantment with federal efforts to deal with the U.S. budget deficit as primary reasons for the gloomier forecasts.

"A substantial number of economists are looking for reduced consumer spending to bring on the next recession," said Mr. Jordan, chief economist for First Interstate Bancorp of Los Angeles.

For 1987, the economists predicted the economy, as measured by the gross national product,

would expand at a 3.2 per cent rate, matching the forecast made last January by U.S. President Ronald Reagan's administration.

But the troubles on Wall Street caused them to reduce substantially their growth forecast for 1988, dropping it to a sluggish two per cent growth rate. In August, the economists had been expecting growth of 2.7 per cent next year.

Sluggish growth would send the unemployment rate rising next year. The business forecast predicted unemployment, which is now at an eight-year low of 5.9 per cent, will climb to 6.3 per cent next year.

Mr. Jordan said that many economists reported business holding up well in their own firms in the month following the stock decline, but they still were pessimistic about the overall economy's future.

He said 65 per cent of the economists reported rising demand for their company's products, the second-highest positive level in three years.

But 50 per cent of the economists still said the country would be in a recession before the end of next year and another 38 per cent said the recession would begin in 1989, coinciding with the next president's first year in office.

These were among the other findings of the survey, which reflected the opinions of 209 economists.

— Inflation, as measured by

consumer prices, will rise 4.3 per cent next year.

— The nation's foreign trade deficit, which hit a monthly record of \$17.6 billion in October, will total a record \$160 billion this year, but will start to decline in 1988, dropping to \$142 billion. The 1986 deficit was \$156.2 billion.

— The federal budget deficit, which dipped to \$148 billion in the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30 because of windfall tax revenues, will increase in the current fiscal year to \$160 billion.

The economists expressed substantial dissatisfaction with efforts so far by the administration and Congress to come up with credible reductions in the budget deficit.

Over 70 per cent of those surveyed said they favoured cutting defence spending by larger amounts than currently scheduled as a means of reducing the deficit.

Slightly smaller majorities favoured increasing liquor and cigarette taxes to raise money, and also supported cuts in social programmes.

The economists were not very optimistic about administration efforts, led by Treasury Secretary James Baker, to stabilise the value of the dollar through coordinated efforts with other countries.

The economists were nearly unanimous in predicting the dollar would fall further next year, with half of them forecasting the decline would be steeper than 10 per cent. The dollar has fallen by almost 50 per cent in value since February 1985.

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Dollar edges down again

Gold breaches \$500 level

LONDON (R) — Gold jumped to trade above \$500 an ounce for the first time in nearly five years on Monday as the dollar edged down again to record lows.

Shares eased too, but trading was quiet and dealers said that could exaggerate price movements in all markets.

As the dollar eased, sliding 0.75 pfennig and one yen to hit record lows of 1.6230 West German marks and 127.35 yen, more investors decided it is now time to move out of dollar assets.

"It is the old flight to quality, the flight from financial assets in tangible assets, that boosted gold," said Mr. Rabin Bhar, an analyst at commodity brokers Rudolf Wulff and Co. in London.

"Buying started in the Indian subcontinent," he said. "Gold slowly and steadily edged up, then, once above \$500, jumped \$2 in less than five minutes. Everyone piled in."

Bullion, which was last quoted above \$500 an ounce in February, 1983, traded on Monday as high as \$503, up nearly \$10 from Friday's close. Its record high of \$850, in January, 1980, came at the height of the crisis over American hostages held at the U.S. embassy in Tehran.

It was fixed in London on Monday morning at \$502.75. But its value against other currencies

was still far below its 1983 level — back then, the dollar was worth about 330 yen, 2.4 Deutsche marks and 2.1 Swiss francs.

The dollar's current weakness — it also hit record lows of 1.3225 Swiss francs and 1.8265 Dutch guilders, and lost half a cent to trade as low as \$1.845 to the British pound sterling — depressed share prices.

"The dollar is the problem," said Mr. Martin Peterik of brokers S.G. Warburg in Tokyo, where the 225-share Nikkei index fell 109.53 points, or 0.48 per cent, to close at 22,926.28.

London's blue-chip barometer, the FTSE 100-share index, eased 10.4 points to a morning low of 1,641.2. Paris shares eased. In Zurich, the All Share Swiss index slipped 4.6 points to 744.1, while Milan's MIB index was down nine per cent.

Frankfurt's Boersen-Zeitung 30-share index opened 1.36 points lower at 272.17.

"Prices are holding up despite the weaker dollar," said one dealer. But, he added, "There are no orders. Prices are being set without any trend."

But, said a currency dealer

with a U.S. bank in London, lightly-traded markets often see sharp, sometime exaggerated, price movements.

"The dollar lost nearly five per cent of its value in the Christmas period last year," he said.

Currency dealers remain unsettled — many see last Thursday's news of a record \$17.63 billion U.S. trade deficit for October, which has pushed the dollar down to record lows for three straight sessions, as a signal that the dollar will keep sliding.

And in stock markets outside the United States, investors see a weak dollar as bad for business.

Mr. Paul Volcker, former chairman of the U.S. Federal Reserve Board, whose comments have often moved financial markets sharply, said on Sunday the dollar had already fallen too far.

"I don't think it's helpful to have the dollar fall at this point because I think it can be depressing on economic activity abroad ... and potentially inflationary in the United States," Mr. Volcker said in an interview with American Broadcasting Corp.

Investors fear a weak dollar will hurt European and Asian companies that export to the United States. It should also help their U.S. competitors, giving them an edge when converting dollar prices into other currencies.

Greeks stage general strike today

ATHENS (AP) — A nationwide strike called by the Greek General Confederation of Labour (GSEE) for Tuesday to press the Socialist government to ease its austerity measures, is expected to paralyse public and private services and bring transportation to a halt.

It's the second general strike called this year by the GSEE since February.

About two million public and private sector employees including school teachers were expected to heed the call by the GSEE for the 24-hour walkout. The strike is designed to press the government to ease up on its two-year-old austerity programme, grant immediate pay hikes and increase fringe benefits.

Cyprus boasts record tourism income

NICOSIA (AP) — A record one million tourists have visited Cyprus so far this year, pushing tourism earnings up to an expected all-time high of 300 million pounds (\$660 million), tourist board president, Mr. Christos Georgiades, said Monday.

That marked a 19 per cent increase in tourist entries over the same period last year in the Greek Cypriot part of the East Mediterranean island, which has a population of only 500,000. Earnings from tourism were the equivalent of 572 pounds

Postal workers started their strike Monday and announced it would continue for the next 48 hours. Public cashiers who have been on strike for the past two weeks, said they would extend their walkout till the end of this week.

Olympic Airways, Greece's national carrier, announced on Monday that all its domestic and foreign flights would be cancelled.

Foreign airlines operating out of Athens international airport were taking a wait-and-see attitude especially on their incoming flights.

A Swissair official said he hoped the situation would improve enough to permit some of their flights transiting Athens for

other points to land here. "But the situation looks grim at the moment since the control tower employees were also scheduled to participate in the walkout," he added, asking that his name not be used.

Premier Andreas Papandreu said last week that the spate of strikes hitting the country "are unjustified and a serious threat to the nation's economy."

The government had pledged to sharply reduce inflation this year down to ten per cent from 16.9 per cent last year, as part of an economic stabilisation programme. But official figures released in November indicate that inflation has already reached almost 15 per cent and may surpass the 1986 rate.

West Germany increased by 44.9 per cent, 33.1 per cent from France, 33 per cent from Austria, 29.2 per cent from Switzerland, 70.6 per cent from the Netherlands and 129.5 from Belgium and Luxembourg after intensive publicity campaigns in Western Europe, Mr. Georgiades said.

British tourists remained the traditional top group with 29.6 per cent of the total, followed by the Scandinavian countries, West Germany, Greece, Ireland, Switzerland and France.

The percentage of visitors from

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One Sterling	1.8440/50	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3062/72	Canadian dollar
	1.6233/40	West German marks
	1.8261/71	Dutch guilders
	1.3235/45	Swiss francs
	34.02/05	Belgian francs
	5.5075/5100	French francs
	1197/1198	Italian lire
	127.45/55	Japanese yen
	5.9100/50	Swedish crowns
	6.3450/3500	Norwegian crowns
	6.2575/2325	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	501.00/501.75	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices were quietly lower in late trading showing little reaction to a firmer start in New York, with uncertainty over the near-term outlook and the proximity of the Christmas holiday the main factors, dealers said.

One commented "to describe this market as dreary would be an understatement. Nobody is confident of where we are going, and people are happy just to keep clear."

Dealers said a mildly encouraging Confederation of British Industry (CBI) survey and rather better than expected U.K. retail sales data for November were largely ignored and at 1530 GMT the FTSE 100 index stood 8.8 points lower at 1,642.8.

The CBI said 40 per cent of U.K. companies are forecasting a rise in output over the next four months while only nine per cent said they expected a decline. The survey showed new orders at their most buoyant for a decade.

Despite the optimistic outlook for output, many are worried that the continuing weak dollar will significantly affect the future earnings of major exporters such as Glaxo.

THE Daily Crossword by Martha J. De Witt

ACROSS

- 1 Tie
- 6 Shot metal
- 10 Applause
- 14 Condition
- 15 Ahab's father
- 16 Ersatz butter
- 17 Insects
- 18 Talk wildly
- 20 After
- 21 Joust
- 22 Sheriff's
- 23 groups
- 24 Layers
- 25 Hint
- 26 Errand
- 28 Parlor game
- 32 Westlands
- 33 Stylish
- 34 — ewe
- 35 Feedback contents
- 36 Layered rock
- 37 President's office
- 38 To — (exactly)
- 39 Ooze
- 40 Appearance
- 41 Uncountable dollars
- 43 Get the soap out
- 44 Calabes ox
- 45 Wren s.g.
- 46 Show off
- 48 House in Chicago
- 49 Suppliant
- 50 Marble
- 53 Resound
- 54 Some recess collectively
- 57 Vow
- 58 Lake that sounds weird
- 59 Long suit
- 60 Goddess of discord
- 61 Society
- 62 De Valera

DOWN

- 1 Wimbledon champ
- 2 Try
- 3 Concern
- 4 Goddess of harvest
- 5 Vacillates
- 6 Launges
- 7 Give off
- 8 "Where — the clowns?"
- 9 Suppliant
- 10 Play practical jokes
- 11 Woe is me!
- 12 Granular snow
- 13 Performs
- 18 America
- 23 — "Town"
- 24 Guffaws
- 25 When Antiochasta is
- 26 Raccoon's cousin
- 27 Residence
- 28 Burns
- 29 Confederate president
- 30 Expunge
- 31 Store event
- 32 Dead Sea city
- 33 Dishware
- 34 Sended
- 35 Camelopard
- 40 Hostelry
- 42 Incline
- 43 Foundations
- 45 Ida's neighbor
- 46 Splitting tool
- 47 Prevaricator
- 48 Against
- 49 Baby's place
- 50 Sentence
- 51 Concoming
- 52 Whoreness
- 55 Ida's neighbor
- 56 Mauna —

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

SCANDAL	PROSE	STAIN
CARDY	ADULT	NOSE
ADROD	LEGG	OPPO
CLARAS	STANDARD	
COMPARISON	GLAD	
QUINT	ADULT	STAIN
PERF	MOTOR	MOON
BUT	LOVABLE	
STARMAP	SADIA	
YOUNG	ADULT	STAIN
QUINT	ADULT	STAIN
PERF	MOTOR	MOON
BUT	LOVABLE	

Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF



JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

RETEX	□ □ □ □ □
WELJE	□ □ □ □ □
KENART	□ □ □ □ □
GOURAC	□ □ □ □ □

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: HE WAS A "□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □" (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: PUDGY FACET MAYHEM UPSHOT
Answer: A zipper is the only thing that gets stuck on a woman more often than this — A GUY OSES

Horoscope not received

ASEAN summit opens with Aquino stressing Philippines' role in regional security

MANILA (Agencies) — President Corazon Aquino opened a summit meeting on Monday with an address to her South-East Asian neighbours on the key role the Philippines played in their security because of U.S. bases on its soil.

Mrs. Aquino, disregarding an apparent agreement to leave the bases issue to one side, opened the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) summit in Manila with a blunt declaration of the "Philippine factor" in the security of the whole Asian-Pacific region.

Mrs. Aquino made no direct reference to the huge air and naval bases maintained by the United States north of Manila but made it clear she believed their presence was perhaps the single most significant factor in regional security.

"The Philippine factor is said to have contributed to the securing of the air space and the sea lanes that are vital to the continued economic stability and growth of our neighbours," she declared.

The Philippines, protected by geography, could if it chose afford an attitude "of the coldest indifference to developments in the region," she added.

The reference diverted Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei from their major preoccupations with the Vietnamese intervention in Kampuchea and economic and trade issues.

Political observers and diplomats here have said Mrs. Aquino wants an ASEAN acknowledgement of the regional significance

of the American bases to help her defend their presence against the fierce domestic opposition expected when renewal of the bases pact comes up for discussion next year.

A Philippine initiative to have the bases discussed at the summit was rejected in pre-meeting discussions.

Diplomats said it had become clear that although ASEAN members all agreed on the significance of the bases they could not publicly say so because of links to the Non-Aligned Movement, Islamic organisations and other non-regional groupings.

Mrs. Aquino won indirect backing from Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanonda of Thailand who called for any military adjustments to be made over time "in accordance with the prevailing reality," Mrs. Aquino labelled the Philippine factor "part of the reality" of any discussion on regional security.

But her remarks clashed with those of other leaders.

"Let South-East Asia be for South-East Asians and let the people of this region get on with the job of maintaining peace and stability for the sake of their own development and progress," Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Seri Mahathir Mohammad declared.

Both Mr. Mahathir and In-

donesian President Suharto pressed for quickly turning South-East Asia into a nuclear-free zone.

The rare regional summit meeting, only the third ever for 20-year-old ASEAN and the first in a decade, began behind a security screen unprecedented even for coup-prone Manila.

Manila, haunted by a succession of bomb incidents and rumours in the run-up to the six-nation summit, was packed with troops and police on action-ready red alert status.

Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew won laughter and applause from the other summit participants and the hand-picked audience at the 18-minute public session when he said that none of the leaders would be in Manila if they had listened to their security services.

In his address, Thai Premier Prem said ASEAN must look to political means, rather than military, to end Vietnam's intervention in Kampuchea.

Hanoi's hold on its neighbour the main obstacle to peace and stability in the region, Mr. Prem said.

"Everyone now seems to agree that a political solution, not a military one, is the key to end this conflict. The problem is to agree on the kind of a political solution," he said.

ASEAN wants the withdrawal of the more than 120,000 Vietnamese troops, negotiations under United Nations' auspices on the country's future and reconciliation of the warring factions.

Socialists deliver major blow to Martens in polls

BRUSSELS (AP) — King Baudouin began talks among political leaders Monday to form a new government, one day after the centre-right coalition lost most of its legislative majority to the opposition socialists.

The sovereign received outgoing Premier Wilfried Martens, who offered him his resignation, the royal palace announced.

King Baudouin accepted and asked Mr. Martens to go on as caretaking prime minister. The monarch was expected to consult later in the day with other political leaders.

The Socialists demanded a role in the next government after dealing a severe blow to Mr. Martens' coalition of Christian Democrats conservatives.

With virtually all votes counted, returns showed the outgoing coalition taking 110 of 212

legislative seats, down five.

The Socialists gained five to reach 72 and became the biggest single political group in the bilingual nation in more than half a century. All political groups are split into Dutch and French-speaking parties.

Mr. Martens, 51, who has led seven governments since 1979 on a programme of economic austerity, on Sunday termed the vote results "a clear disappointment. ... it is now the task of the monarch to start consulting" political leaders.

His own Dutch-speaking Christian Democrats were the biggest losers Sunday. They lost six seats and fell to 43, wiping out their gain in the 1985 elections.

The Dutch-speaking conservatives won three seats to reach 25, while their Francophone counterparts lost one, going to 23, and

the French-speaking Christian Democrats also lost one to slump to 19.

The socialists in Wallonia, Belgium's French-speaking southern region, won five for a total of 40 seats. The Dutch-speaking Socialists held their own at 32 seats.

Together, the Socialists became the largest political grouping with 10 more seats than the long-dominant Christian Democrats.

"It is important to define a new social and economic policy" to offset Martens' austerity measures "while remaining firm to defend the Francophone interests," said Guy Spitaels, leader of the Walloon socialists.

The gains by his party, which campaigned on linguistic issues, made the formation of a new coalition more difficult because

of a lack of common ground with any of the Dutch-speaking parties.

The government fell Oct. 19 after it split along linguistic lines over whether to let a militant Francophone mayor of a village along the linguistic border in Dutch-speaking Flanders remain in office despite his refusal to speak Dutch, as required by law.

Jose Happort, the mayor of Voeren, became the spearhead of Mr. Spitaels' successful campaign.

More than seven million Belgians in the nation of 5.5 million Flemings and 4.5 million Francophones Walloons voted Sunday.

To topple the government over Mr. Happort, interrupting its six-year-old austerity programme was "supreme folly," Mr. Martens said on Sunday.

South Korean opposition leader urges rival to quit election race

SEOUL (AP) — Opposition leader Kim Young-Sam made a last-minute appeal Monday for rival leader Kim Dae-Jung to drop out of presidential elections as the government claimed it was pulling ahead.

Kim Young-Sam said he was the frontrunner in the race for Wednesday's election and Kim Dae-Jung had to drop out to ensure the defeat of government candidate Roh Tae-Woo.

"Since the general trend has become clearer, I urge Kim Dae-Jung in the name of the people to drop out to ensure the termination of military rule and the democratisation of the country," No clear frontrunner has emerged in the first democratic presidential election in 16 years, and the top three candidates all predict victory. The winner is expected to get less than 35 per cent of the vote.

The ruling Democratic Justice Party (DJP) claimed Monday that what it called neutral opinion polls showed Mr. Roh was ahead of the opposition candidates and would win with about 40 per cent of the vote.

DJP Secretary-General Chung Suk-Mo claimed the polls showed Mr. Roh with 35 per cent of the vote, followed by Kim Young-Sam with 27 per cent and Kim Dae-Jung with 26 per cent. The ruling party released the polls despite a government ban on publicising such results on the grounds they would unfairly influence voting.

Aides to the two Kims dismissed the DJP's claims, saying their polls showed their candidates were leading.

Minor opposition candidate Baek Ki-Wan dropped out of the race Monday after saying efforts to get the two Kims to agree on a single candidate had failed.

President Chun Doo-Hwan, a former general who seized power with military backing in 1980, agreed to direct presidential elections in June after extensive anti-government protests. He is to step down Feb. 25 in what would be the country's first peaceful transfer of power.

Mr. Roh, one of the generals who helped Mr. Chun take power, has claimed he alone can ensure democracy and stability.

The ruling party charged Monday that the opposition would try to slip phony ballots into ballot boxes Wednesday in an attempt to claim the elections were rigged.

Bush: SDI will not block second treaty

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Vice-President George Bush said on Sunday that while Washington and Moscow remained at odds over President Reagan's "Star Wars" defence programme he did not think it would prevent another arms reduction pact.

Mr. Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, in their three-day summit in Washington last week, signed a treaty which will eliminate all intermediate and shorter-range nuclear forces (INF).

Mr. Bush said that Mr. Gorbachev did not press him to say where the strategic defence initiative (SDI), commonly known as "Star Wars", might be headed under a new president, but the Soviet leader understood that he himself was a strong SDI proponent.

"I believe strongly in a vigorous SDI programme," Mr. Bush, who is the Republican Party's front-runner for the 1988 presidential nomination, said in a television interview.

Mr. Bush added he thought there would be a second nuclear arms reduction agreement before Mr. Reagan left office in January 1989.

Americans approve treaty

According to a poll published in the latest issue of Newsweek magazine, three out of four Americans think the arms treaty agreed to at the superpower summit should be ratified by the Senate, but they are about equally split on verification.

The poll was conducted by the Gallup organisation among 507 Americans on Dec. 11, the day after Mr. Reagan and Mr. Gorbachev signed the INF treaty. The poll had a margin of error of plus or minus six percentage points.

An overwhelming 73 per cent of the respondents, all of whom were contacted by telephone, said the treaty should be approved by the Senate, with 11 per cent disapproving and 16 per cent saying "don't know," Newsweek said.

However, only 37 per cent said they thought the United States would be able to "ensure that the Soviet Union abides by the rules of the... treaty," Newsweek said. Another 34 per cent gave a negative response and 29 per cent said "don't know."

By agreement of the four news organisations that interviewed Mr. Miranda, his remarks were to have been released for publication on Monday. But after at least two of the news organisations sought comment Friday from Sandinista authorities, Mr. Ortega decided to give his own version of Nicaragua's defence plans on Saturday.

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Gen. Powell, the recently appointed national security adviser, called Mr. Ortega's disclosures "incredible" and cautioned the Soviets against arming the Sandinistas with such weapons as MIG jet fighters.

The New York Times reported

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